

Royal grief after 'the horror of those terrifying seconds'



A sad journey's end: The Duchess of York, Mrs Sarah Lindsay, the Princess of Wales and the Prince of Wales watch colleagues from Major Lindsay's regiment carrying his coffin from an aircraft of the Queen's Flight at Northolt yesterday

The homecoming of a good friend

By Alan Hamilton

His face set in the unmistakable mould of grief, pain and bewilderment, the Prince of Wales yesterday brought home the body of his friend and skiing companion Major Hugh Lindsay from the sport challenge that turned in a second to fatal tragedy.

Major Lindsay's widow of a day, Sarah, greeted the flag-draped coffin on its arrival from Switzerland at RAF Northolt, Middlesex, while his mother, numbered by the disaster, nonetheless insisted that the Prince, who led the ill-starred skiing expedition, should bear no blame.

Yesterday morning a British Aerospace 146 jet of the Queen's Flight, its unhappy mission designated Task 1399, left Northolt for Zurich to pick up the members of the royal ski party, their holiday cut tragically short, and their companion who died beneath a chilling and suffocating avalanche.

Major Lindsay's widow, wearing a vivid purple blouse under an outfit of black, arrived at Northolt accompanied by her father, Mr Brian Brennan, who had cut short a holiday in Morocco, and her husband's elder half-brother

Mr David Lindsay. They were taken to the airfield's royal lounge where they were met by Lieutenant Colonel Robin Scarby, commanding officer of Major Lindsay's regiment, the 9/12 Royal Lancers.

At the regiment's headquarters at Carver barracks, Saffron Walden, Colonel

A two-man helicopter crew undergoing instruction by the Duke of York were killed on Thursday when their machine crashed into the sea 50 miles off the coast of Portugal. They had been operating from the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Esquiline, an aviation training ship.

Scarby had ordered that all flags fly at half-mast, and that all mess dinners be cancelled, as a mark of respect to Major Lindsay, who returned to the regiment in 1986 after three years as Esquerry to the Queen.

Colonel Scarby had also ordered that his dead comrade be received home with proper honours: a nine-man bearer party of regimental sergeants waited to receive the coffin.

The aircraft, captained by Squadron Leader Graham Laurie and 19 minutes behind

schedule on its 90-minute flight after a late take-off from Zurich, touched down at four minutes past five in a chill wind under a steely grey sky. As the Prince of Wales' standard was hoisted above the flight deck, the RAF flag on the edge of the tarmac was lowered to half-mast.

As the aircraft taxied, a black Daimler hearse drew up outside the modest prefabricated terminal buildings to receive the coffin. As the aircraft came to a standstill the bearer party, under the command of Regimental Sergeant Major John Sewell, took up position by its rear door. Even the engineers and white-overalled ground crew stood to silent and unmoving attention.

The Prince of Wales, in a dark blue suit, was the first of the royal party to emerge, followed by the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York, both dressed in black, the Duchess with a black bow in her hair. They were greeted by the acting station commander at Northolt, Wing Commander Peter Barrett, and walked quickly to the small royal lounge where they

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The Prince of Wales penned his poignant public message about the tragic royal ski trip in neat blue handwriting. The full text said:

In order to dispel some of the wild and unreasonable rumours which may have arisen as a result of the tragic accident in which I and my friends were involved I would like to clarify a few points: first I would like to emphasize that all members of my party including myself were skiing off the piste at our own risk and we all accepted and always have done that mountains have to be treated with the greatest respect and not treated lightly.

There is a special dimension to skiing off the piste which is hard to describe to those who have not experienced it or may not wish to. My friend Major Hugh Lindsay who so tragically died in this appalling accident shared these feelings to the full and also understood that there is inevitably a risk involved. There is a risk involved skiing on the piste as well.

Avalanches are a natural phenomenon of the mountains and when it comes to avoiding them no one is infallible.

Secondly I would like to emphasize most forcibly that Herr Bruno Sprecher, the Klosters mountain guide

being employed by the Duchess of York, was invited to join my party as a guest in the afternoon since the Duchess had returned to the chalet. Major Hugh Lindsay and myself were skiing with Mr and Mrs Charles Palmer-Tomkinson who are great friends of mine.

Charles Palmer-Tomkinson has taken me to the mountains since childhood on a number of occasions in the last 10 years. When the avalanche started with a tremendous roaring, Bruno Sprecher, Charles Palmer-Tomkinson, the Swiss policeman and myself all managed with great good fortune to ski to one side. To my horror Major Lindsay and Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson were swept away in a whirling maelstrom as the whole mountainside seemed to hurtle past us into the valley below. It was all over in a terrifying matter of seconds.

Herr Sprecher acted with incredible speed and total professionalism. He skied down as fast as possible having told the Swiss policeman to radio for assistance. Having reached the bottom of the avalanche he found Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson, using the audiophone radio detection device.

Mr Palmer-Tomkinson and Continued on page 24, col 1

'The mountainside hurtled past us'

Satellite launcher puts UK back in space race

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Scientists are about to announce the development of a world-beating rocket launcher which promises to put Britain back in the race to exploit the commercial potential of space.

It has been designed by a team of specialists led by Dr Geoffrey Pardoe, project leader for the highly-successful Blue Streak launcher which was dropped by the Government in the 1970s.

The 80 ft-high rocket will be capable of putting satellites weighing up to a quarter of a tonne into low polar orbit at a cost well below that of the Americans and Europeans.

Many of the design details are still secret. However, it is known that the rocket, code-named Little (Little Launcher for Low Earth Orbit), will be multi-staged and powered by solid fuel propellants similar to those used in the United States space shuttle.

By using well-established rocket technology, the launcher will open up the vast commercial potential of space to countries which so far have been unable to afford to put up their own satellites.

A consortium of European companies being set up to exploit the rocket's potential includes GTS, a company

formed by Dr Pardoe after the demise of the Blue Streak, which is the biggest independent space consultancy outside the US. The venture will be fully funded from private capital.

Membership of the consortium is being kept secret until a formal announcement at the end of this month. However, it is understood that it is likely to include at least one other British company and organizations based in West Germany and Norway.

The consortium will offer launches from a launch pad on Andoy, an island off the north-west of Norway, which is currently used for launching scientific rockets. It is considered to be ideally suited for launchers designed to put satellites into low polar orbit.

Little will not have the power to put satellites into geostationary orbit above Earth so it will not compete directly with European and American launchers capable of putting big communication satellites into high orbit.

However, project sources said research had disclosed a big global market for small satellites placed in polar orbit a few hundred kilometres above the Earth.

Many countries, particularly from the Third World, want access to space technology to help with weather forecasting, finding new sources of minerals and developing materials which cannot be produced on Earth.

As well as offering flights from the only launch pad in mainland Europe, the consortium is considering providing a satellite recovery service, based on a technique developed for US spy satellites, which can return payloads from space orbit with an accuracy of 50 metres.

The development of Little by British rocket specialists has been made against a background of more than 20 years of government disinterest in space technology. In spite of the international acclaim won by British engineers for the Blue Streak and Black Arrow booster designs, successive governments have remained unconvinced of the long-term commercial significance of space.

The White Paper on the future role of the Department of Trade and Industry, which was released in January, made clear that no more government money was to be made available for space technology.

Bar may lose sole rights of appointment to senior posts

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Sweeping changes to the way the legal profession is organized, including removal of the Bar's exclusive right to be appointed to senior judicial posts and to take cases in the higher courts, is expected to be recommended in a key report next month.

The keenly awaited report, the final version of which is being drafted, comes from the committee on the future of the legal profession, set up in April 1986 under Lady Marre.

It is expected to recommend a radical overhaul of the present restrictive practices of the legal profession; its system of education and training, together with measures to improve the way services are offered to the public.

Chief among the expected recommendations are:

- Solicitors should be eligible for appointment to all ranks of the judiciary;
- Solicitors with a proven

specialist expertise should be granted advocacy rights in courts related to their work;

● The public should be granted direct access to barristers and not have to go through solicitors;

● A more controlled entry system to the profession to reduce wastage, with mandatory grants for the vocational training year to help poorer students, and a common one-year training course for non-law graduates, whether they want to be barristers or solicitors;

● A reformed training system to improve standards of competence, with more emphasis on practical skills for lawyers, including communication and management skills.

The report could be highly embarrassing to the Bar, which has said it will not be bound by its findings.

The committee was set up jointly by the two branches of

the profession to put an end to bitter public squabbles over such matters as rights of audience in the courts.

The most controversial issue will be that of advocacy rights in the higher courts. The Marre committee is expected to propose a selective right, based on specialization and training, and accreditation.

It means that only specialist criminal practitioners — "accredited" or approved by an assessment system — would be able to take crown court cases, for instance.

On Thursday the Law Society council agreed to set up pilot schemes for a system of specialization under which solicitors could obtain Law Society recognition as specialists.

Solicitors, who could then advertise that expertise, would be subjected to a rigorous assessment of competence.

RUC will combat funeral take-over

The Royal Ulster Constabulary last night warned the Provisional IRA not to attempt to take over the funerals of the three terrorists shot dead in Gibraltar.

Appealing to the families of the dead men to give an unqualified public assurance that the funerals would take place within the law, the RUC issued an uncompromising statement outlining its policy towards the policing of such events, which in recent years have been marked by massive security force presence and clashes with mourners.

Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the RUC, determined some years ago to prevent paramilitary displays. The statement said the

RUC's only desire was that funerals took place in a peaceful manner, and that the police acknowledged that whatever the circumstances of death there was grief and sorrow for bereaved families.

● Labour's fragile unity over the Gibraltar shootings fell apart yesterday as the leadership disowned a left-wing Commons motion condemning the deaths of the three IRA terrorists as "capital punishment without trial".

● Mr Jim Spicer, a Conservative MP and party vice-chairman, said yesterday that terrorists should be buried where the authorities decide, preferably at sea off Gibraltar with no fuss and only close relatives present.

● Government sources confirmed yesterday that members of the security forces who shot the terrorists would appear at their inquest in Gibraltar if the coroner wished, provided that safety and anonymity could be guaranteed.

Front-runners find Chicago their kind of town

From Frank Johnson Chicago

The claim of professional Chicagoans, broadly speaking, is that the South, and "Super Tuesday", were all very well. But now the race for the Republican and Democratic presidential nominations moves to places where real people live. The candidates are now in this city which, with the rest of Illinois, has its primary on Tuesday.

It is the old American principle, perhaps formulated in Chicago, that "the opera ain't over 'til the fat lady sings". But Chicago looks like singing the same broad theme as New Hampshire and the South. Vice-President George Bush for the Republican nomination, Governor Michael

Dukakis of Massachusetts for the Democratic.

Mr Bush has won all the important primaries so far, and Senator Robert Dole none. As the professional Chicagoans emphasize, the one thing Chicago will not tolerate is a loser.

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Also, they will not tolerate someone they have never heard of. And that is curious for Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, who did not become famous until he won a few states in the South last week, which does not really count here.

On Thursday night Senator Gore and the three other Democratic candidates still in the race — Mr

Dukakis, the Rev Jesse Jackson and Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri — sat wedged between party hacks at a raised table, seemingly a quarter of a mile long, and gazed down on a vast Democratic "unity dinner" in the Hyatt Regency Hotel here.

"Super Tuesday was spring training. Now the campaign moves to the big industrial states which will decide — states like Illinois," raved a professional Illinoisan of a chairman, while a cacophonous chatter rose obviously from the tables below. "Look at them," whispered a distinguished authority from *The Washington Post*, "they're evil, these Chicago Democrats, always have been. Unity dinner, indeed! They hate each other."

They did not look it — more like

Mid-western car franchise holders out for the annual beano: the men in blazers, women in little black dresses. Only the womenfolk among Mr Jackson's supporters had a touch of wicked glamour. It was slightly, and agreeably dated — all taffeta and roses in the hair, reminiscent of the female cast of *Carmen Jones* in the mid 1950s.

Each candidate was asked to say a few words and all said more than a few. It is probably too early to say what any of them "stand for", or what "the issues" will be between the Democrats and Republicans in November. So far the only issue among Democrats is whether the front-runner, Mr Dukakis, is Roosevelt in 1932 or Mr Mondale in 1976. Is he a state governor inspiring an air of non-

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Give career women 7-year baby break, CBI tells employers

By Roland Rudd

Working women are being given breaks for up to seven years to have a family without damaging their career prospects and leading industrialists are now pressing more companies to introduce such schemes.

The Confederation of British Industry is calling on its members to introduce career-break schemes in the interests of equal opportunities and the needs of businesses.

A number of local authorities, computer companies, high street stores and oil companies already offer women employees the chance to leave work for up to seven years to have a child, before returning to their former employer.

Mr Rod Thomas, CBI director of Employment Affairs, said yesterday: "It makes sense for businesses to offer highly skilled women the chance of returning to their job after pregnancy. Most firms operating the scheme ask the women to attend a two-week course each year to keep them informed of any changes."

The National Union of Teachers has just announced that it has negotiated a seven-year career break with the local authorities in Kent. Women will be required to devote a minimum of 10 days a year to teaching to keep informed of educational developments.

When they return after seven years the union is guaranteeing that they will be able to go back to a job no less junior than when they left.

The National Westminster Bank first introduced the scheme after employees who left to have children failed to return to work. A career re-entry programme allows women with the ability to reach senior management the chance to be at home with their children for five years. The Midland and Barclays Bank have followed suit.

The Women's National Commission, a Government-funded body established to advise ministers on matters related to women, is calling on the Department of Employment to produce an information pack which could be used at local level.

Ms Shirley Rolfe, a spokeswoman for the commission, said yesterday: "Women wishing to return to work after having a baby need additional advice and guidance. Government departments should encourage local employment networks to discuss the issues connected with returning to work after a long break."

A Manpower Services Commission report shows that many women in their late

twenties or thirties are concerned about their job prospects at pregnancy. Many see themselves having to choose between a career and a family.

Mr Thomas predicted that pressures arising out of the skill shortages will see the scheme spread from the finance sector into a wider field of organizations.

● The TUC is to investigate increasing violence against women, particularly at work, and will develop ways to deal with it.

"Urgent representations" will be made to the Government to improve levels of staffing in areas of public services, such as Department of Health and Social Security offices, where the problem is growing, delegates to the TUC women's conference decided yesterday.

Ms Christine Wood, of the National Union of Civil and Public Services, predicted violence would increase when the new Social Fund was introduced in April.

She told 500 delegates and visitors on the final day of the conference at Blackpool's Tower Ballroom: "When our staff have to refuse help, no doubt more people will be upset and frustrated. Can you wonder that they hit out at the officer who deals with them? There is increasing anger and frustration in deprived people."

Raising a roof for handicapped



Dame Judi Dench, the actress, yesterday launched a fund-raising appeal to find a permanent home for a theatre company which tries to integrate handicapped and able-bodied children. Dame Judi and her husband, the actor Michael Williams, are patrons of the Chicken Shed Integrated Theatre Company, which hopes to

raise more than £600,000 to build a community theatre in north London. The company, the only one of its type, has been operating for 13 years and has received wide critical acclaim on television and in the West End. It has 80 children in special education among its 280-strong membership, with a long

waiting list. Joining in the launch at Muswell Hill yesterday were: (back, from left) Denise Kissane, Mark Goodwin, Dame Judi Dench, Michael Williams, Catriona McDougall; (front, from left) David Kissane, Malcolm Gorrie, Anne McGeehan, Michelle Mazzi and Denise Needs.

Portfolio — PLUS NEW — Accumulator Winner to take piano lessons

A lifelong ambition to learn the piano will be taken up by the sole winner of the £4,000 daily Portfolio prize, Miss Yvonne Talbot, of Cambridge.

Miss Talbot, a secretary, said: "I never learned to play as a teenager and I have always wanted a piano. I think I will rent one to start with to see how I get along with it."

"I was told that with being a secretary my fingers will be supple enough to take up lessons."

She said she had been a regular reader of *The Times* and had played the Portfolio competition since it started.

Mother in drier case is guilty

A young woman was found guilty yesterday of ill treating her son aged two by shutting him in a tumble drier and switching it on. She was remanded in custody for 14 days for medical and social inquiry reports.

The jury of seven women and five men took three hours to convict the woman, aged 25, a nursing home assistant, of cruelty. She was also found guilty of assault causing actual bodily harm.

She was found not guilty of cruelty by dipping her son's genitals into a cup of hot tea and was also cleared of two other charges of assault.

During the four-day trial at Nottingham Crown Court, Mr Peter Joyce, for the prosecution, said the mother shook with laughter as her son spun round in the drier. The child went round two or three times and got stuck by his foot before being freed. He was badly shaken.

A woman aged 18, a member of a neighbouring family who sometimes looked after the little boy, said the mother was sitting on the kitchen floor laughing after closing the tumble drier door with the boy inside. Then she switched on the machine.

The mother, from Digby, near Lincoln, had denied the charges. She said her son had been playing, climbing in and out of the tumble drier, when "for a stupid reason I closed the door on him".

She said: "He was mucking about laughing and puffing faces through the glass door." She had not realized the machine was plugged in at the main switch when she "accidentally" switched it on.

Singer verdict

Andy Gibb, the singer, died from natural causes, a post-mortem examination at Oxford disclosed yesterday. Police said his death was caused by a heart condition and not the use of drugs. Mr Gibb was 30. There will be no inquest.

Moore renews campaign to cut cost of prescriptions

Use of non-brand drugs might save £35m

By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent

The Government has renewed its campaign to cut the cost of the National Health Service drugs bill by trying to extend generic prescribing.

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced yesterday that he had appointed Touche Ross Management Consultants to examine the generic medicines market in Britain and to recommend improvements in buying, distributing and pricing drugs.

At present, about 25 per cent of all prescriptions are for generic medicines, which make up 8 per cent of the £1.6 billion drugs bill.

The Government has recently estimated that if generic medicines were substituted for all brand name prescriptions £35 million a year would be saved, but other organizations have predicted that savings of between £100 million and £200 million a year could be made.

In a parliamentary answer Mr Moore said that the White Paper on primary health care had recommended voluntary generic prescribing by doctors as good professional practice. "It is important therefore that there should be wide availability of generic medicines

throughout the country and the market should operate efficiently."

Mr Moore said that Touche Ross had been asked to examine the extent of competition in supplies to NHS hospitals and to family practitioner service contractors, the prices paid and the effectiveness of those medicines.

The consultants, who will also look at the relationship between the prices of generic medicines and the extent to which the UK and other manufacturers can enter and remain in the market, have been asked to report back within six months.

Yesterday the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, which represents manufacturers of brand name and generic drugs, warned the Government that the inquiry would have to look at the effect of generic prescribing on the economy, on research and development and the community.

"We welcome any inquiry into the area provided that it looks at it objectively and takes into account research and patent life erosion", the association said.

The financial plight of the National Health Service was emphasized yesterday when it was disclosed that there is a £4 billion backlog of repairs and refurbishing to dilapidated hospital buildings.

He also emphasized that the party would have to reassert the basic practical and philosophical strength of the health service and its access to health care according to need.

The difference between the Labour Party and the Government was simple and clear, Mr Kinnock said. "They believe that Budget day should be give-away day. We believe that Budget day should be National Health Service day."

Mr Kinnock conceded that reforms in the health service were necessary. They included changes in the training, education and career opportunities for nurses, better conditions for junior doctors, the increased use of technology, and increased accountability.

Health authorities were prevented from either upgrading hospitals or building new ones because of the squeeze on the capital budget over recent years, he said. "There has been no significant increase in capital resources for the last four years and next year the 2.5 per cent increase is less than inflation."

Although land sales had released significant capital sums in London and the South-east that had not been the case further north.

Mr Poynton also disclosed that his region agreed on Wednesday to cap spending on acute services and to ask its 22 districts to revert to spending levels set more than a year ago.

In 1986-87 the region, which has a budget of more than £1 billion, spent £500 million on acute services.

Although there are no firm figures for this year, the region estimates that spending on those services will have risen, by more than 10 per cent.

century and half before the Second World War.

Speaking at a conference in London on health service funding organized by the National Association of Health Authorities he said: "There is £4 billion of backlog maintenance in the NHS, mostly in old, dilapidated buildings."

Health authorities were prevented from either upgrading hospitals or building new ones because of the squeeze on the capital budget over recent years, he said. "There has been no significant increase in capital resources for the last four years and next year the 2.5 per cent increase is less than inflation."

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Eye damage risk in 'sick' offices

By David Nicholson-Lord

Thousands of people are at risk of eye damage by working in "sick" offices, new research has indicated. They may also suffer temporary impairment of intelligence.

The research has identified a condition named as "office eye syndrome". A study of 169 town hall clerical workers found that 25 per cent suffered eye irritation several times a week. Left untreated, the dry-eye condition could cause lasting corneal damage.

A second study subjected 62 people to low concentrations of the organic gases and chemicals produced by office furnishings and equipment — dry photocopyers, for example, can give off ozone — and found there was a significant loss of short-term memory, one of the factors measured in intelligence tests, as well as irritation in the eyes, nose and throat.

The studies are regarded as a milestone in investigations into "sick building syndrome" as they provide one of the first pieces of evidence of direct clinical effects on sufferers.

One recent survey of more than 4,300 British office workers showed that four out of five suffered from building sickness, reporting symptoms such as lethargy and headaches.

Researchers are divided between those who regard the hundreds of toxic organic compounds given off by building interiors, most notably formaldehyde, as the culprit, and those who blame environmental factors such as lighting, ventilation and smoking.

Dr Ivan Vince, a specialist in environmental pollution and author of a new report analysing research on the sick building syndrome, yesterday described the new studies, from Danish researchers, as important.

He added: "The syndrome is now widely accepted by the medical profession as a real physical problem, as opposed to being hysterical or psychosomatic. But since it is to do with how people feel, it is very difficult to measure the effects."

"Now we know that there is an objective, observable effect, it is possible to measure the effects on the eye and to say that there is a chemical component to them."

Complaints of eye irritation examined in one study included itchy, gritty, redness and a tendency to water. The study showed that these were linked with pathological changes in the cornea and the conjunctiva.

Sheriff leaps to defence of outlaw legend

The Sheriff of Nottingham yesterday sprang to the defence of Robin Hood by demanding the withdrawal of a leader which casts doubt on the legendary hero's companions.

Romantics received a sharp jolt when Nottingham City Council issued a tourist leaflet claiming that Robin never met Maid Marian and that Friar Tuck did not exist.

Mr Royce Young, the outgoing sheriff, has asked the city's tourism committee chief, Mr Brian Marshall, to scrap the publication immediately before it causes further harm to the city's tourist image.

He said: "There is a long tradition to support the existence of both Maid Marian and Friar Tuck, supported by many authors and texts. I'm only sorry that I don't have the powers of my predecessors."

But Mr Marshall was unrepentant. "The booklet has attracted worldwide publicity. I think it will actually increase the number of tourists we get."

GCSE examiners crisis

Teachers urged to volunteer

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

One of the biggest GCSE examining groups admitted yesterday that it is still trying to recruit hundreds of examiners to mark papers which pupils will begin writing in less than two months.

The Northern Examining Association, one of the five GCSE boards in England and Wales, said it was short of examiners in 11 subjects, including science, French, history, geography and religious education.

Head teachers have received letters this week from Mr Colin Vickerman, secretary to the board, urging them to encourage teachers to volunteer for the task. The letter points out that the success of the GCSE in its first year depends as much on teachers' willingness to act as examiners as it does on the work they do with their pupils.

Mrs Joan Olivier, head of Lady Margaret School in Fulham, west London, described the letter as alarming. "Teachers

are doing their best to cope with the demands of the new syllabuses and it is doubtful whether any of them will be anxious to step forward at this stage to train as examiners. I'm very much afraid the whole thing could turn into a fiasco."

Mr Vickerman, who acknowledged that many head teachers were worried, disclosed that the board had prepared a contingency plan. Instead of teachers being sent scripts at home, they will be assembled under a supervisor in groups of 30 or 40 to speed up the marking process.

Examiners are paid between 30p and £1 a script depending on the length and complexity of the papers.

● The University Grants Committee is being pressed to open to public inspection the method used since 1986 to assess university research departments.

The research rating exercise is scheduled for next year, but

after the uproar that greeted the first one two years ago, the grants committee will be forced to justify or change its way of judging research.

The universities are concerned about the distinction between certain grades, particularly those of "international status" and "above average status".

They have also complained that the research rating exercise has become confused in the public eye because of the system adopted in 1986 of allocating university grants largely according to the number of students, which is seen as discriminating against the smaller universities that are more expensive to run.

Although the research rating was taken into account in the final grant allocation, it did not represent a big factor and some universities feel aggrieved at being tarred with a "poor research" label because of a funding formula outside their control.

Pocky money rises but child earnings drop

Britain's 11 million children had a 6 per cent rise in pocket money in the past year — outpacing the increase in the retail price index — to an average £1.23p a week.

When gifts and earnings from Saturday jobs and newspaper rounds were taken into account, the income of all children to the age of 16 fell by 5 per cent, according to a Gallup survey of 1,260 children for Birds Eye Walls.

For the third year running Scottish parents were the most generous, giving children an average 23 per cent more pocket money than any other region.

Pocket money for those aged five to seven went up most, by 29 per cent to 54p, and boys generally fared better than girls.

Incomes for those aged 14 to 16 took a knock. There was a 32 per cent drop in average weekly earnings from Saturday jobs and a 27 per cent drop in gifts from friends and relatives.

Southend religious bookseller, who is not a member of Dr Runcie's flock.

Mr Slenett has paid £50,000 for stamps on all letters in 68 out of 69 main sorting offices to be franked with a special die, bearing his slogan, until April 10.

The mistake was an honest one, Mr Horwood conceded and Mr Slenett's motives were sincere. He should have his money back and "demonstrate his faith in a more constructive way" by giving it to Christian Aid.

The Post Office said later it was "a little surprised" by Bishop Gordon's comments, as the purchase of a franking slogan was a form of advertising which the Church of England itself had sometimes used.

Runcie stamps disapproval on religious slogan

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Editor

The Post Office was gently squirming with public embarrassment yesterday after the Primate of All England declared his polite distaste for the "Jesus is Alive" slogan now appearing on millions of letters.

In the face of much agitation against the slogan from humanists and atheists, the Post Office had been resolutely maintaining that it was neither controversial nor offensive, particularly in a country where Christianity was the established religion.

Yesterday's knife in the back from Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was delivered by Bishop

Ronald Gordon, his chief of staff, in a letter (duly franked "Jesus is Alive") to the British Humanist Association (official slogan "Conscience in Action").

Addressed to Mr Martin Horwood, the association's director, it said that Bishop Gordon was replying on behalf of the archbishop, who has just returned from Australia.

Christians would want to affirm that Jesus was alive on appropriate occasions, Bishop Gordon wrote on Dr Runcie's behalf. "But the imposition of a postmark by a public monopoly is hardly an affirmation of faith, since the sender can exercise no choice in the matter."

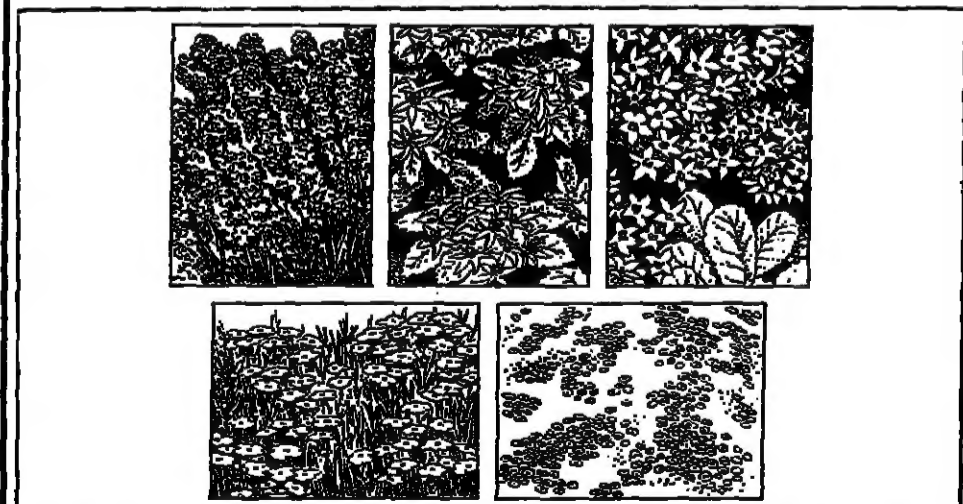
"In this respect, the imposition may be regarded as insensitive."

Mr Horwood, an instant convert to Dr Runcie's fan club, declared the letter "sensible and reasonable." He had written asking the archbishop "to make clear your own disapproval of such insensitive methods of promoting your faith."

Some of the association's mail has been arriving at its west London address with various uncouth disclaimers scribbled on the envelopes by the senders. The letter from Lambeth Palace had been double franked.

Post Office had no choice now, Mr Horwood claimed, but to cancel the agreement with Mr Paul Slenett, the

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WORLD ROUNDUP

US orders PLO mission to close

New York — The US Government yesterday bowed to congressional wishes and ordered the closure of the United Nations mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization, a move that is almost certainly in conflict with American pledges to the world body (Charles Bremner writes).

Mr Herbert Okun, the US deputy ambassador, said that he had told Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the Secretary-General, of the decision, adding that the Justice Department would start legal action if the PLO did not comply. The Reagan Administration has hesitated for months over an anti-terrorist law passed by Congress last autumn that required the closure of the UN mission and a Palestinian information office in Washington.

The PLO has maintained the mission for 13 years, since the UN voted to give it observer status at the organization's New York headquarters. American diplomats were embarrassed by the law, which reflects the strength of the pro-Israel lobby in the run-up to the presidential election.

Falklands Football appeal

New York (Reuters) — Argentina called yesterday for a United Nations Security Council meeting on the British military manoeuvres around the Falkland Islands.

The Argentine Ambassador to the United Nations, Señor Marcelo Delpech, said that he expected the council would meet on Thursday, when the Foreign Minister, Señor Dante Caputo, would be present.

Britain began an exercise on Monday to test its ability to reinforce the Falkland garrison. Argentina, which has its troops on a "defensive alert", says the manoeuvres violate its sovereignty and run counter to resolutions by the UN and the Organization of American States calling for talks to resolve the sovereignty. Letters, page 9

Greece snubs Israel

Athens — Greece yesterday rescinded its decision to extend full diplomatic recognition to Israel because of its treatment of Palestinians (Mario Modiano writes).

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, told Parliament that Greece, which assumes the presidency of the EEC on July 1, had thought it useful to establish full relations with all the countries that have some link with the community, including Israel. "We deeply regret that we are unable to do so following the treatment meted out by the state of Israel... to the Palestinians," he said.

Wu talks Buddhist progress

Britain and China expressed satisfaction in London yesterday with progress towards the handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997 (Our Foreign Staff writes).

The two countries discussed the handover, agreed in 1984, during five hours of wide-ranging talks between the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Qiaoqun, who is on a six-day visit, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary. A Foreign Office spokesman said: "They reviewed with satisfaction progress in implementation of the joint declaration on Hong Kong."

Vietnam leader dies

Beijing (Reuters) — The veteran Vietnamese revolutionary, Mr Pham Hung, has died of heart failure after only nine months as Prime Minister. Vietnamese Embassy spokesman said yesterday that Mr Hung, aged 75, died on Thursday afternoon but did not say where the death took place. Mr Hung was reported to have been in poor health for years and looked frail at the time of his appointment as Prime Minister on June 18. Vietnam will observe three days of mourning. Obits, page 10

Jakarta's experiment

Suharto calls halt to new liberalism

From Gavin Bell, Jakarta

Indonesia's brief experiment with liberal democracy has fizzled out with a renewed commitment to its doctrine of government by consensus.

An unprecedented challenge for the vice-presidency by a minor political leader was withdrawn at the last minute yesterday, allowing the nomination of President Suharto to be elected unopposed.

Dr Jaianti Naro gave up the contest after officials of his United Development Party had sought President Suharto's guidance on the controversy. While the President did not veto Dr Naro's candidature, he indicated that he would find it easier to work with Mr Sudharmono, the influential State Secretary and chairman of the ruling Golkar Party.

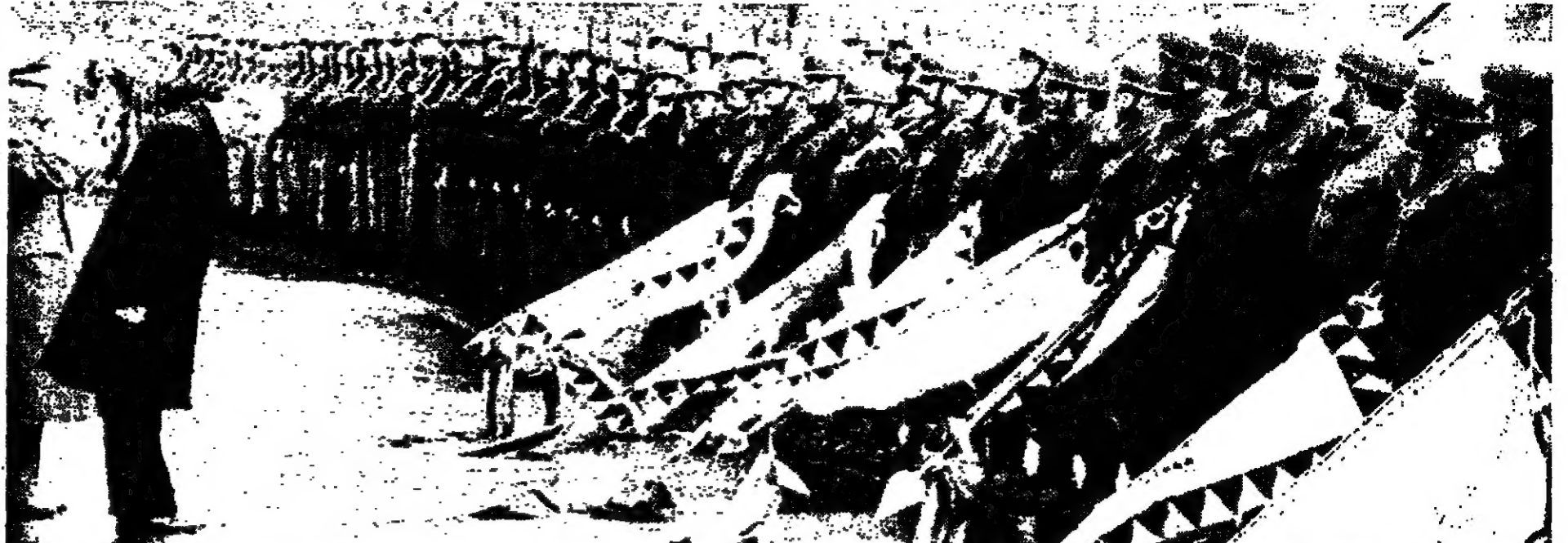
Dr Naro's party instructed him to withdraw and Mr Sudharmono was duly installed by the 1,000-member Consultative Assembly. Dr Naro thereby spared the Assembly — a plenary session of Parliament — the embarrassment of having to choose between the two.

Voting is regarded with distaste in President Suharto's "New Order", since it introduces the concept of political opposition in a country where consensus is the rule.

Nevertheless Dr Naro's brief challenge highlighted pressure on President Suharto to relax his grip on politics and freedom of expression, and delighted a growing elite demanding a role in decision-making.

"Other steps will be taken," Dr Naro told *The Times* later.

Waldheim tribute as Vienna remembers



Dr Waldheim paying his respects to the colours of the Army on his way to wreath-laying ceremonies at monuments to the Unknown Soldier and victims of Fascism in Vienna yesterday.

Why are they still persecuting me?

President Waldheim of Austria, under international siege over allegations about his war-time activities, speaks to Gitta Sereny in Vienna

"I don't understand," President Waldheim said. "Why do they go on about me?"

"You tell me that you don't see me entirely as a victim and, of course, that is your privilege. But what can I do more than explain, time and again?"

"Of course, one had to 'know' things in any army, staff officers 'know' things. Of course I now know I should have said more about my war years."

Leaving aside for a moment what he knew or did not know, said or did not say, I asked, did he feel that his predicament is at least in part the result of a generation gap: that a great many people now simply cannot envisage life under the Nazis?

I could almost hear his sigh of relief. "Yes," he said. "Yes. You see, what happens is that people consider what happened then in terms of Western democracies now. While in fact, with just one word out of turn, one risked not just prison, but execution."

"I remember once coming upon my father, his car pressed to the radio, listening to the BBC, and — I can see him still — I saw him start in stark terror as he heard my steps. How can the young today understand that kind of atmosphere? One boy asked me recently why didn't I just take off the uniform, throw away my weapons. He is right,

of course, it's a fundamental question. Of course, I could have; perhaps I should have. "But it is true, of course, I could have resisted, deserted, and didn't."

That is what he said now, but did he actually ever consider such a choice?

"One did think about it, of course, but..." he paused. "You see, my father and my brother were both active anti-Nazis. My father, of course, lost his teaching job, was imprisoned, beaten up... I think," he said slowly, "it was

because my family were so endangered that I felt... army life was... safer... than being a civilian. It is true; I wanted to survive."

Did he know about Hitler's feelings about Jews?

"In a way, you know, my problem was, that I was never directly confronted with horrors. Our home was a small town — the Jews there were people one knew. I certainly never saw anyone being mistreated in 1938. When I fought in Russia — riding with my troop of 70 cavalrymen in

front of the infantry, drawing the first volleys so to speak — I never saw a partisan. Then on the staff, it was all reports and I can assure you no troop commander reported: 'Today we committed horrors', perhaps to the SS — I never knew any — but not to the Army staff."

Was he saying that the reports he saw did not mention partisans? "No, of course. Now I report encounters with Banden — partisans — and Stüberungen (clearing out)."

But then what about

Sühnmassnahmen (reprisals) against villages, women and children? Did that not appear on reports? Did he and the other young staff officers never talk about any of the bloodbaths in the midst of which they lived?

"But it wasn't like that," he sounded desperate. "In Greece I sat in a little former American college, overlooking the vineyards and the Aegean."

But in Yugoslavia, where he was in villages less than 20 kilometres (12½ miles) from

the terrible Ustasha camp of Jasenovac where countless thousands died?

"Was it really so nearby?" he asked. "But anyway these were Ustasha installations... the only thing there ever brought against me was a forged telegram. The Commission had looked for proof against me for six months — they had read thousands of documents — nothing has been found. All they could say was: 'He must have; he should have; he could have; he might have.' And in spite of this for 1½ years now, one cannot open a paper or turn on the radio without reading, hearing the appalling things they say about me, in these appalling terms."

But did not he say he knew nothing?

"I never saw anything."

But he guessed, and thought?

"You mean, I'm not made of wood? I'm glad you feel that. And of course, one thought. But in law there is a difference between knowing and doing."

"A report mentioned 'reprisals' a few hundred kilometres away, what could one have done? Nothing. Even the Commission said that even if I'd given my life, it wouldn't have helped."

But is there no moral responsibility apart from practicalities, I asked? In that case where does guilt start?

"Not in mere knowledge," he said. "Only in not doing anything if one was in a position to do something. I am religious. I pray. I often pray that these horrors of war should stop."

Austria subdued as it marks the Anschluss

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Austrian politicians of all parties yesterday commemorated the 50th anniversary of their country's annexation by Nazi Germany with a unanimous call to face the "shadows as well as the blessings" of their country's past "squarely in the eye".

Only President Waldheim was silent, confining his duties to the laying of a memorial wreath. At official ceremonies in the former imperial palace, the Hofburg, Herr Franz Vranitzky, the Austrian Chancellor, called for unity to build up the society which 50 years ago was destroyed by its own divisions.

"We will not forget our past. Self-criticism is not a bad thing. It is a form of patriotism as important and as expressive as any waving of flags or singing of hymns."

Earlier, addressing a special sitting of the Cabinet, the Chancellor said that modern Austria should not be concerned with the detail of what happened 50 years ago. It should be more concerned with how it views those events today. Those Austrians who had served the Nazi machine under the pretext of "doing their duty" must recognize the hideous mistake and shadows of their past, Herr Vranitzky insisted.

A desultory demonstration outside by a few score students against Dr Waldheim confined itself to shouted slogans. ● Honorary withdrawal: Dr Waldheim, accused of "deliberate deception", was yesterday stripped of an honorary degree by Keele University in Staffordshire. The degree was presented to him in 1980 by the then Chancellor, Princess Margaret.

Defiant Dole resists calls to quit in favour of Bush

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Senator Robert Dole, in a dramatic indication that he may halt his faltering campaign for the Republican presidential nomination within days, has cancelled his television advertisements in Illinois and dismissed 300 of his national campaign staff.

His top aides have privately urged him to get out of the presidential race before the crucial primary in which he may suffer a humiliating defeat at the hands of Vice-President George Bush.

But Mr Dole categorically denied he was pulling out. "Bob Dole no dropout. I'm in this one to win." As if to underline that, he made arrangements for a press conference at which Mr Henry Hyde, a conservative Illinois congressman, was to endorse Mr Dole, switching his support from Mr Jack Kemp who pulled out on Thursday.

Mr Dole's campaign staff insisted that the cancellation of television advertising was only so that a new strategy could be prepared. But his advisers have made no secret of the fact that his campaign is still reeling from its devastating defeats in every one of the

17 Republican contests last Tuesday.

Senior Republicans are urging Mr Dole to quit now in order to give Vice-President Bush an early advantage over the still disunited Democrats. They say that, once assured of the nomination, he will be able to campaign in a more "presidential" manner.

This will be important as the first wave of Iran-Contra indictments begins to lap dangerously close. Mr Bush's chances of victory in November would be hurt by further needling on this from Mr Dole. The bitter personal feud between the two has already damaged the Republicans.

A "suspension" of the Dole campaign, as it might be called, would leave Mr Bush with no real opposition in the Republican race. It would mean he had clinched the nomination at an earlier stage than any non-incumbent since the primaries began dominating the process in the 1970s.

Other advisers, however, are urging Mr Dole to stay in at least until after the Illinois election on Tuesday in hope of an upset victory. Mr Dole, fiercely independent, is said to

be in a mood of grim determination.

Mr Bush meanwhile has begun to distance himself from the controversy surrounding Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General, and other Administration officials who have been accused of wrongdoing and breaches of ethics.

He said in Chicago on Thursday that he was "disturbed and embarrassed" by ethical shortcomings in government. "People at all levels of government should come to serve, not to profit."

Mr Bush's remarks were a clear attempt to pre-empt Democratic criticism of the "sleaze factor" in the Reagan Administration.

In Colorado Mr Gary Hart, as expected, announced his withdrawal from the Democratic race. He said he had asked the people to decide on his candidacy.

In marked contrast to the bitter and self-pitying speech he made at his first withdrawal from the race in May, in the wake of the scandal over his liaison with Miss Donna Rice, Mr Hart sounded cheerful and resolute.

Leading article, page 9

US to tighten squeeze

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The White House is considering new economic sanctions to oust General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the Panamanian strongman, especially by depriving his regime of much needed funds.

"The major strategy is to target government finances" to put pressure on General Noriega, according to Mr Elliott Abrams, the Assistant Secretary of State.

President Reagan's senior advisers met at the White House on Thursday evening to examine the new moves. These are expected to include the withholding of a monthly \$6.5 million (\$3.5 million) payment due on Tuesday to the Panama regime dominated by General Noriega, who has been indicted in US courts on drug-running charges. The money is part of \$80 million that the US pays annually under the 1978 Panama Canal treaties.

Officials here said that the Administration could also suspend various trade preferences extended to Panama as a Third World country and beneficiary of President Reagan's Caribbean basin initiative. The US could also curtail shipments of Alaskan oil to

US Atlantic ports through a pipeline crossing Panama. There could also be greater surveillance of Panamanian individuals and goods moving across US borders.

Senator Alfonse D'Amato, a Republican of New York, yesterday called for "a total trade embargo". But Mr

Madrid — The Foreign Ministry refused to confirm or deny a report here yesterday that Spain is willing to grant asylum to General Noriega (Harry Debelius writes). The independent *El País* quoted unnamed Spanish diplomatic sources as saying Spain was willing if the general asked.

Abrams told Congress on Thursday that he did not think that there was support within the Administration for trade sanctions. "I think financial targeting is more likely to succeed," he said.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, also said on Thursday that the Panamanian Government was "funding its treasury empty" so that it was not able to service people who were looking for cash.

Panama's foreign creditor

banks are now having to decide how to handle the \$1.9 billion (£1 billion) they have lent to that country. Faced with an intensifying cash squeeze, Panama has asked international banks for a three-month moratorium on \$421 million in maturing loans which fall due next week. The US dollar is Panama's official currency.

Last July, the Administration stopped economic and military aid to Panama in protest at General Noriega's activities but President Reagan has ruled out any military intervention in Panama, where 10,000 US troops are based in the Canal Zone.

The Administration is getting strong backing from Congress, which wants even tougher economic, trade and political sanctions. On Thursday, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution asking President Reagan to step up such sanctions to encourage the re-establishment of civilian authority in Panama. The resolution called on General Noriega to comply with President Delvalle's order dismissing him as commander of the Panamanian Defence Forces.

Youth springs eternal from a pocketful of pills

From Charles Bremner, New York

Live longer, look younger — and have fun doing it. The advertisers have yet to make that claim, but it sums up the credo behind a barrage of new "miracle" products and services all aimed at helping Americans to preserve their youth and cheat the Grim Reaper.

Big money is the prize for the food and drug manufacturers who are scrambling to sell their wares to the country's increasingly elderly and health-conscious population. So great is the rush that two states have threatened to prosecute companies for making unsubstantiated claims.

Waking up in the morning, the ageing baby-boomer can now reach for the Retin-A, his Minoxidil and his aspirin before helping himself to a breakfast cereal that claims to reduce the risk of cancer. If he switches on his TV, the chances are that one of the new death commercials will remind him of his mortality.

Minoxidil is the expensive hair-restoring drug approved last year by

the Food and Drug Administration. A greater novelty is Retin-A. Used for more than a decade against acne, the ointment hit the headlines last month when a university study showed that it removes wrinkles and reverses skin-ageing.

"A new age has dawned," *USA Today* proclaimed on its front page. "I don't want to be quoted saying this is the fountain of youth, but it's the closest thing we have today," said Dr John Voorhes, the Michigan University professor who led the study.

Since the news came out, doctors have been besieged for prescriptions and shares in Johnson and Johnson, the makers, have surged.

Medical findings last month that taking aspirin regularly will ward off heart attacks among healthy middle-aged men gave a lease of life to the makers of the old painkiller. Within two days, one manufacturer was running full-page advertisements in the national press reprinting *The New York Times* story announcing the study.

This month prosecutors in Texas and New York warned the companies

that they would face legal action if they promoted aspirin as a preventative for heart attacks. The Federal Drug Administration also cautioned the makers that they had jumped the gun because it is still reviewing the aspirin study. A British study has since cast doubt on the American findings.

Most controversial among the new products are the two "non-fat fats" announced over the past few months. These "phoney foods" hold out the prospect of very low-calorie ice cream, hamburgers and fried potatoes that taste the same as the real thing. One of them, Olestra, is synthetic and awaits long testing.

But Simplex, announced this month by the makers of an artificial sweetener, is made of proteins from egg whites and milk and will be hatched soon.

The promised revolution in the American diet, with its idea of guilt-free glutony, is alarming nutritionists. "We're severing our contact with nature, and that's dangerous," Professor Joan Gassow, of Teachers College in New York, said.

While fat-lovers await the era of low-calorie fast food, they can still indulge and keep down the inches, thanks to liposuction. The surgical technique of vacuuming off fat from under the skin is enjoying a big boom. Is one typical television commercial for a Denver clinic, a young executive is working out in the park. "Liposuction got rid of those inches that exercise wouldn't remove," he boasts.

Anyone who has switched on an American television set lately could be forgiven for thinking the country has developed an obsession with fibre. Science scientists found a tentative link between colon cancer and low fibre intake, the breakfast cereal makers have been waging a billion-dollar war to claim the title of "most fibrous".

During TV news broadcasts in particular — the marketers say the elderly watch the news while the young flip to the competing quiz shows — commercial after commercial shows people agonizing over their fibre intake.

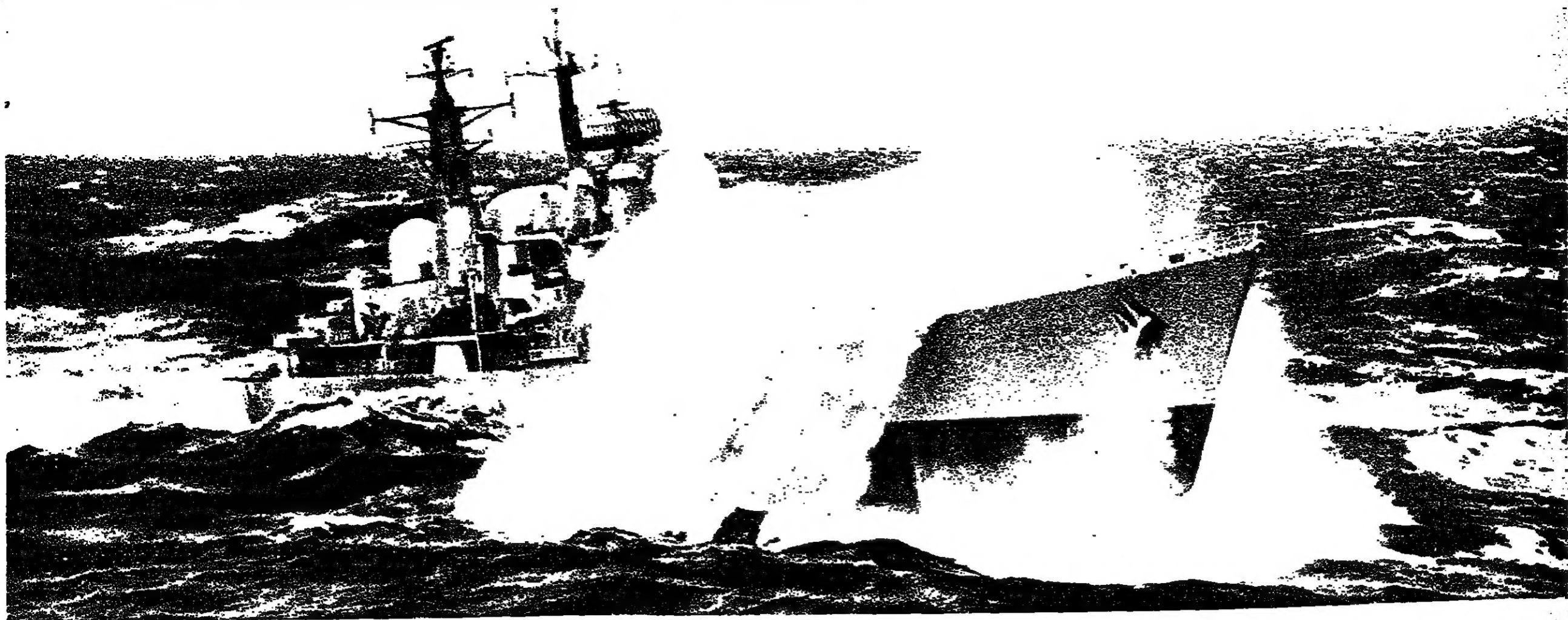
Since pretty models have taken to

using the word cancer in food commercials, it was only natural that the advertisers should grow bolder on the previously taboo topic of death.

Across the country, funeral parlours and life insurance companies have taken to hawking their services with graphic glimpses of grief, though they stop short of depicting the deceased. "We don't want people visualizing themselves lying in a box," one advertiser told *The Wall Street Journal*.

Not everybody is squeamish about this, though. The American Cancer Society has launched a commercial that starts with mourners roving an open grave. To the background of Sinatra pop music, the film goes into reverse and a coffin rises out of the ground.

Doctors are then seen removing the sheet from the face of the dead man and his heart comes back to life. The flashback ends with him seated at home with his personal computer while his wife suggests a check-up for colo-rectal cancer. "I have more important things to worry about right now," he says.



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مكتبة الامم

Iraq's ill-judged 'war of the cities' fails to undermine Iranian morale

Flimsy ceasefire brings halt to rain of missiles

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

A precarious ceasefire took effect yesterday in the Iran-Iraq 'war of the cities' which has left hundreds of civilians dead. An Iranian spokesman quoted by Tehran Radio yesterday evening said that Iran had halted reprisal attacks on Iraq after Baghdad ended its air and missile raids on Iranian cities.

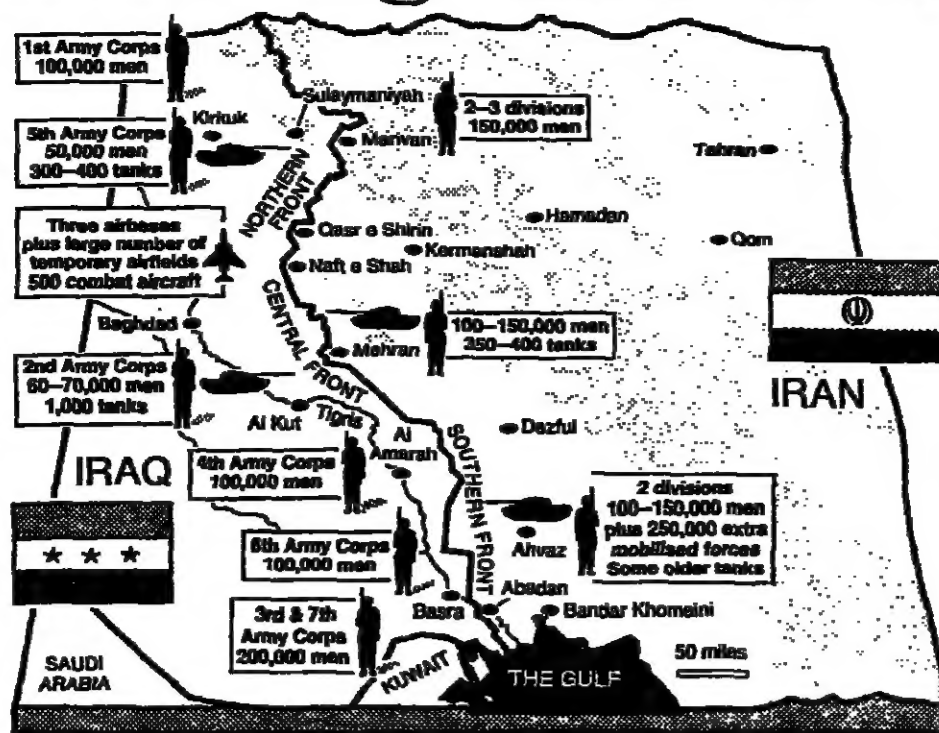
Iraq had set a truce deadline of 1300 GMT yesterday for a halt to the missile strikes. Baghdad had set five conditions, including the right to strike the last blow. It kept up its missile and air attacks into the final minutes before the deadline, firing 11 missiles at Tehran and Qom during the day. The last Iraqi missile was launched at Tehran only 16 minutes before the deadline.

The Iraqi Government's strategy behind the relentless war of the cities, which reopened more than two weeks ago with a raid on the oil refinery outside Tehran, has been to refocus world attention on the Gulf War — away from the Israeli-Palestinian West Bank issue — and create more pressure on the United Nations Security Council to impose an arms embargo on Iran. The strategy was ill-judged from the start.

Western diplomats believe that Iraq is convinced it has the West 'in its pocket' and can get away with anything because Iran is viewed as Washington, London and Paris as the real stumbling block in the peace efforts to end the seven-year Gulf War.

But, much to the annoyance of the West, which has been engaged in a delicate courtship with the Russians to persuade them to go along with a Security Council resolution banning arms to Iran — a follow-up to Resolution 598 calling for a ceasefire — Iraq's missile attacks on Iranian cities have given the Soviet Union a perfect excuse to delay the whole process. They are now trying to table a new resolution condemning the war of the cities and have proposed a special UN envoy to examine the latest escalation of the conflict.

Hopes of a mandatory arms embargo, which would have a dramatic effect on Iran's ability to continue its war effort, have thus receded significantly.



It is not surprising that many Western diplomats are saying that Iraq is its own worst enemy. The Baghdad Government also continues to underestimate Iran's determination to carry on with the fight, despite the considerable problems it now faces.

The attacks on the cities were supposed to undermine the Iranian population's morale to the point of open rebellion against the war. But Iran retaliated with its own missile barrages against Iraqi cities, using Soviet short-range, ground-to-ground Scuds. The Iraqis have been launching the same kind of missile, supplied by the Soviet Union, although since they have been fired from further back they have been adapted with an extra booster and a lighter warhead to reach Tehran.

As one of its objectives, Iraq hoped that the missile attacks would goad Iran into launching its long-awaited land offensive. It was expected in February, to mark the ninth anniversary of Ayatollah Khomeini's return to Iran from exile. The Iraqis have an abundance of high class weapons lined up on the border and are confident that they can repel any Iranian assault.

According to the latest Western intelligence estimates, the Iraqis have every reason to be confident. The Iraqis have been running low on equipment for some

time and there are also serious manpower problems.

At present, the Iraqis have between 500,000 and 650,000 regular forces in the southern, central and northern fronts, but have only managed to recruit about 400,000 for the Basij, the Popular Mobilization Army.

In a year's land offensives, Iran mobilized at least 1 million 'volunteers'. Already Iran has had to extend conscription from 24 months to 28 months.

Until the arms embargo becomes a reality, Iran is desperately trying to stock up with weapons. The visit to Iran of delegates from the Bulgarian Heavy Engineering Association in February is seen as a crucial element of Iranian plans to meet their arms requirements.

● AMSTERDAM: Iran has bought a refined oil product in north-western Europe in volume which spot market traders and brokers said yesterday had no recent precedent (Reuters reports).

They said a West German trading house had sold Iran between 240,000 and 250,000 tonnes of gasoline.

16 die as 'masked Tamils' raid bus

Colombo — Sixteen passengers on a bus in Sri Lanka were shot and hacked to death by masked guerrillas yesterday in the island's Eastern Province, security sources said (Vijitha Yapa writes).

Some bodies were charred beyond recognition because the guerrillas had set fire to them. The massacre, south of Trincomalee, is believed to be the work of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

EEC food aid

Brussels — Signor Lorenzo Natali, the EEC Food Aid Commissioner, announced a £29 million emergency aid package for Ethiopia and appealed to government and rebel forces to let it through.

MiGs deal

Belgrade (Reuters) — Yugoslavia has bought a squadron of Soviet MiG 29s and may buy more after a visit next week by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. Western diplomats and defence sources said.

Scientist hunt

Taipei (Reuters) — Taiwan has issued a warrant for the arrest of a missing nuclear scientist amid reports that he has fled the country.

Rail crash

Brussels (Reuters) — At least one person died and about 30 were injured, some seriously, when a train was derailed outside Brussels blocking the main line to Paris.

Senegal curbs

Dakar (AP) — Senegal's Parliament extended a state of emergency imposed on February 29 after the opposition disputed election results and riots broke out.

Belting up

Rome (AP) — Parliament approved the compulsory wearing of seatbelts, bringing Italy into line with the rest of Western Europe.

Hail deaths

Dhaka — Hailstones the size of cricket balls pounded two districts in northern Bangladesh, killing five people and injuring 200.

Norway poll

Oslo (Reuters) — Norway's minority Labour Government has set September 11 as the date for the 1989 general election.

Witnesses detail atrocities in Azerbaijan's ethnic riots

Dissident tells of 'slaughter' by Muslims in maternity unit

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A Muslim mob broke into a maternity ward in the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait during ethnic rioting, disembowelled pregnant Armenian women and killed babies, according to a chilling account of the recent violence provided by the first independent witness to return from the city, now under military curfew and closed to foreigners.

Andrei Shilkov, an editor of the Soviet underground journal *Glasnost*, yesterday painted a horrific picture of atrocities he alleged had taken place in the city late last month.

While KGB agents monitored his flat, Mr Shilkov, aged 36, told newsmen inside that he had been informed by different residents, including Russians with no particular ethnic axe to grind, that Armenians had been flung into the streets by rampaging mobs of Azerbaijanis.

The worst single incident in the violence on February 28 and 29 is said to have occurred in a maternity hospital. Mr Shilkov quoted an account provided to him by an Azerbaijani nurse who had been working there but who had now left the city in disgust at the events which she witnessed.

"The killers broke into the maternity hospital and doctors were made at knifepoint to show them where the Armenian women were lying," Mr Shilkov told the shocked correspondents. "They disembowelled them all in a bloodbath. The new babies were held by the legs and swung and smacked against the wall and then thrown out of the windows."

The dissident, who produced a black and white photograph of Soviet armoured personnel carriers on the streets of Sumgait, said that all the city's 18,000-strong Armenian minority had either fled or were living in public buildings under heavy guard.

To support his claims about the savagery — which he alleged was being deliberately covered up — Mr Shilkov quoted two other residents of Sumgait, a city of 180,000 people situated on the Caspian

Sea. "I spoke with an Azerbaijani woman whose upstairs neighbours were Armenians," he said.

"She saw the mob throw the Armenian daughter, a young girl, out of the window. When they realized that she was not dead, they threw a heavy wardrobe down on top of her to kill her."

Mr Shilkov also described the testimony of a man he described as a "Russified Armenian", aged 29, who was setting off to work in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku when the violence was taking place. "It was like a strange modern film," Mr Shilkov quoted him as saying. "I was walking down the middle of the road while on both sides they were throwing people and furniture from the windows of apartment blocks."

The dissident reported that residents he spoke to during six hours in the troubled city on Wednesday had openly ridiculed the official death toll of 32. He said that people were speaking of several hundred deaths in the rioting sparked by radio reports of the murder of two Azerbaijanis, but this was impossible to confirm.

"Never in my life did I see such a massive concentration of troops in bullet-proof vests and steel helmets," Mr Shilkov said, adding that the taking of photographs was strictly banned in the city. "I counted 47 light tanks in a single side street and some 400 civilian buses being used to transport the soldiers."

Another dissident, Mr Sergei Grigoryants, the chief editor of *Glasnost* magazine, revealed details of the situation in the Armenian capital of Yerevan also out of bounds to newsmen. He said that 15 Kremlin experts with first hand knowledge of the Solidarity movement in Poland had been despatched there to work out a strategy to defuse the nationalist unrest. Mr Grigoryants, who has been the main conduit of information about the crisis, said that in imitation of Solidarity, Armenian nationalists had now formed into committees in their work places with elected leaderships.

ity to continue its war effort, many Western diplomats are saying that Iraq is its own worst enemy. The Baghdad Government also continues to underestimate Iran's determination to carry on with the fight, despite the considerable problems it now faces.

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Crowd that forced a Kremlin rethink: A photograph released yesterday of Mr Igor Mouradian, organizer of a general strike in Soviet Armenia, urging a crowd in the republic's capital, Yerevan, to disperse from a rally last month after Moscow promised to study their demands.

Municipal elections in Colombia

Democracy put to trial by fire

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

In the run-up to crucial elections in Colombia designed to open up the nation's battered democracy and prove that the ballot is more potent than the bullet, political debate has been drowned out by gunfire and the wailing of mourners at mass funerals.

Tomorrow Colombians will be voting for the first time in the free elections of mayors in more than 1,000 municipalities. The prizes range from Bogotá, the national capital with a population of 5.5 million, where the victor will be the second-highest elected official in the land after the President, to the most isolated and forgotten rural backwater, where potentially what has been heralded as the "municipalization" of Colombian democracy will have even greater impact.

Yet while campaigning in the cities has generally been conducted with characteristic Colombian civility and humour, in the countryside it has already lived up to one commentator's billing as "perhaps the most decisive trial by fire of Colombia's democracy in recent times", and no more so than in Urbab.

Urbab is an extensive, scenic and agriculturally rich Caribbean coastal region of the north-western Antioquia department. It is the centre of the nation's important banana industry and a region where the fledgling socialist movement, the Unión Patriótica

bouring haciendas, woke labourers, then called out the names of 21 trade union activists and UP sympathizers, who were ordered outside and executed.

It is anyone's guess whether the extreme right or left was responsible. In a message to the media, a neo-fascist death squad claimed credit. But

There is strong evidence that the Farc and other guerrilla groups receive "narco-dollars" and arms from the drug mafia in return for guarding the coca fields.

Nationwide, the UP says 650 of its members have been assassinated since the movement was founded. Yet so indiscriminate has the violence become that almost daily there are reports of Liberals and Social Conservatives being killed in rural communities.

The escalation in political violence was further underlined in statistics revealed this week by the Defence Minister, General Rafael Sanzudico. These showed that in the first two months of this year, 81 members of the security forces were killed in clashes with guerrilla groups.

have become strained between the UP and the Farc, most of whose fronts have abandoned the ceasefire treaties and been increasingly linked to the "Medellín cartel", the notorious cocaine cartel centred on Colombia's second-biggest city, the capital of Antioquia.

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The UP emerged three years ago from pacts forged by the previous Government with the Farc under a precarious process which has been pursued more warily by Señor Barco. Relations are known to

witnesses say the killers departed, shouting, "Down with the UP. Long live the Farc." The Farc is the acronym for the Moscow-line subversive group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

Cuba has found a way of getting back at its old nemesis through drugs. In Panama the thriller scenarios of 20 years ago have become reality.

America's attempt to engineer the removal of General Manuel Noriega goes beyond the commitment to democracy in Central America: it is a vital test of whether international drug runners can tame the United States and the world community and get away with it.

The US Customs Service, headed by the aggressive Mr William Von Raab who has long pushed for all-out war on the Latin drug runners, has been sounding the alarm for some time. It now wants drastic steps, such as ordering the confiscation of the passport of any American caught carrying even a marijuana joint into the US.

Other agencies have been getting tough as well. The military wants proper drug testing, though its plans for random urine analysis have been temporarily held up by the courts. Transport officials want similar testing on the railways, but are again held up by civil libertarians.

But America has less time nowadays to worry about individual rights and liberties if these can be used to shield the drug-taking habit. There is a war going on in the streets, and Mr Jackson is not alone among today's politicians in insisting it must be fought as a total war, fully engaged, fully funded, or America's veins will soon be clogged by poison.

Jackson spells out horrors of US drugs crisis

The Rev Jesse Jackson is a charismatic speaker at any time. But when he begins his impassioned denunciation of drugs, the audience goes quiet, the tension is palpable. "Get dope out of your veins, he tells into your brains," he tells them.

Thunderous applause shows the passion and urgency of the issue. Almost everyone has been touched by America's drug crisis: broken parents and battered children of addicts, victims of drug-related crime, the poor terrorized by cocaine gangs laying waste to inner city neighbourhoods, ordinary Americans appalled by the havoc drugs have wrought in the schools, on the streets and in the nation's soul.

Going far beyond the platitudes of other candidates, Mr Jackson brutally spells out what America's poor, young and blacks already know: drugs are killing this country, street by street, victim by victim.

A feeling of helpless despair has come over the country.

Washington View

By Michael Binyon

President and Mrs Reagan preach the message of "Just Say No" from the White House, and insist that the corner has been turned.

The statistics show otherwise. One in six American adults is now a drug user. Drug "possession" have pushed urban violence to an all-time record. Only a mile from the White House, pregnant women and six-year-old children are being gunned down, families "executed" in a wave of murderous rivalry among pushers. People are being killed in the nation's capital at the rate of almost one a day, 67 per cent of them the victims of drug wars.

The war is being lost inside the country and abroad. In New York, a young police officer guarding the home of a resident who complained of cocaine dealing was gunned down by drug barons, brazenly sending a message to the

neighbourhood that they, not the law, rule the streets.

It was a challenge that even the Mafia avoids. Ten thousand police attended Officer Edward Byrne's funeral, some from as far away as Texas. Mayor Edward Koch called him a "martyr in what amounts to a war for national survival", and took out a full-page advertisement in *The New York Times* to denounce what he saw as complacency in the White House.

He said that the US, in

sending economic aid to countries that were exporting drugs, was paying for its own lynching. "The communists aren't crossing our borders. The drugs are. The political aim of the drug traffickers is to make addicts of us all."

Police forces around the country, strengthened with a \$1.7 billion (£900 million) emergency grant by Congress, are equipping themselves like armies, with helicopters, patrol boats, machine-guns, hot pursuit jets. Stepping up inter-

ceptations, last year they seized more than 35,000 kilograms of cocaine, a rise of over 1,800 per cent in six years, but still only an estimated third of US consumption. Mountains more of the deadly white powder are still getting through.

Mexico and Colombia are barely able to control their notorious drug cartels, while the Bahamas and Haiti have been virtually bought by the smugglers as landing strips and transit points.

Cuba has found a way of getting back at its old nemesis through drugs. In Panama the thriller scenarios of 20 years ago have become reality.

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The US Customs Service,

Haiti colonel charged

Miami — The United States has formally notified the Haitian Government of drug trafficking charges brought in Florida against Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, the commander of the Haitian Army garrison in Port-au-Prince (Alan Tomlinson writes). He has also been linked with an election-day massacre of voters in Haiti last November.

His indictment by a federal grand jury here presents the new civilian Government of President Manigat with its first real test. Mr Manigat took office a month ago with a serious credibility problem. He is widely perceived at home and abroad as owing his controversial election victory in January to the Haitian Army. His critics have described him as a puppet, an allegation that he is anxious to disprove.

French nuclear pledge

Paris — A clear and unequivocal message that France is determined to push ahead with modernization of its nuclear forces was provided yesterday (Philip Jacobson writes).

In a speech in Tahiti, M Gaston Flosse, the Minister responsible for the Southern Pacific, argued that since the "strategic stakes" had now been set out, other nations in the region should accept that France's independent deterrent undoubtedly "contributes

to their own security". Following the broad French line that emerged during the recent Nato summit in Brussels, he told senior civil servants and military planners stationed in the region that without a credible nuclear capacity "there can be no real deterrence and thus no possibility of balanced disarmament".

The French, he emphasized, would continue modernization programmes "for all our nuclear forces".

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RISK AND THE CROWN

The Prince of Wales has lost a dearly loved friend and seen another seriously injured. He abundantly deserves sympathy as does the widow of Major Lindsay. He also deserves admiration — for the skill, the bravery and the total devotion — he showed to his friends. Perhaps, above all, he should be admired for the unflinching manner in which he has accepted his share of responsibility for the event.

The whole of his party knew precisely what they were doing: they were taking a calculated risk which all expert skiers, with a passion for finding fresh snow continually take, sometimes with equally sad consequences. That quest after risk is an understandable human need.

There are, however, two other considerations which will not easily be expelled from the public discussion of the tragedy. Was the risk miscalculated, was the decision to ski off piste an act indeed of courage but also of irresponsibility?

In most sports, the line between daring and madness is hard to draw. In this case, what can be said — as Prince Charles has said — is that the entire party were accomplished skiers who knew that "mountains have to be treated with the greatest respect and not treated lightly". The presumption must be that what they decided to do was not dictated by pure folly.

There are few, if any, outdoor sports in which risk can be eliminated. Should we become a nation whose competitive sporting instincts were restricted to the chess board and the ping-pong table, we would flourish neither in peace nor war, and a great many brave spirits would be stifled. The human impulse for combat with nature is, in particular, something to be cherished. It should not be feared and repressed.

Yet there will be those who will say that all this applies to ordinary people but not to heirs to the throne. The Prince, it has been argued, is

under a special obligation to protect his own safety against all such hazards as are not plainly inevitable in the proper execution of his defined public duties.

There is a sense in which this can be truly said of monarchs. The Queen is the personification of the State; her life is committed to a specific constitutional function. She is by common knowledge an exceptionally courageous woman, whose courage has often been a source of nightmares to her ministers; but it is courage shown for constitutional purposes such as the desire to keep in close and informal contact with all her subjects and with all the people of the Commonwealth. It is not and cannot be shown in the pursuit of diversions however noble.

These awesome duties have not yet descended upon the Prince. His are different. He represents the future and it is right that his example should be addressed largely to the young. The example he sets them is one of bravery: physical prowess in healthy pursuits and intellectual enterprise in good causes. What is more, he is a relatively young man who must be allowed to live, not transformed into a museum piece.

As a family man, no less than as an heir to the throne, he must feel the strongest compulsion to avoid foolish risks. His own judgement and instincts may be trusted to enjoin reasonable prudence, even without the aid of exhortation from the media.

Had the ski slopes claimed him, the country would indeed have sustained a bitter loss; but if he were now to submit to being over-protected to the extent of abandoning the adventurous life for which his education at Gordonstoun prepared him, he would suffer much in public esteem. Happily, he is not in the least likely to go in that direction. For this we salute him.

THE RIGHT STUFF

The draconian economies imposed by Senator Robert Dole on his US presidential campaign reflect, more eloquently than any words, the impact of last week's rout in the deep south. A month ago, he was relishing the attention due to an early front-runner after his triumph in rural Iowa. Then came defeat in New Hampshire, disaster in the southern states last Tuesday — and now second place in the opinion polls in Illinois. "Bob Dole's no drop-out," he said yesterday, denying the rumours of his withdrawal. But the end of his hopes for the White House now looks bleak.

The unexpectedly early elimination of Senator Dole should make life easier not just for Vice-President Bush, but for the Republican Party. However divided during the primaries, Republicans close ranks round the successful candidate with impressive loyalty. This time they should be able to concentrate their energy soon on winning the main poll in November.

Whether they end up with the right candidate is another matter. Mr Bush has two well-publicized advantages over his rivals, and one which has been less remarked upon. The first is that, as sitting Vice-President, everyone knows him. The second is the popularity of Ronald Reagan (as Republicans cannot choose him again, they have always looked likely to opt for his junior partner). The third was the early timing of "Super Tuesday" — which always promised to give a shove to the George Bush bandwagon (with its Texan connection).

Americans like backing winners — in contrast to the British, who prefer underdogs — and Mr Bush's well-endowed campaign is now picking up funds as quickly as that of Senator Dole is losing them. By dismissing half his staff and cancelling television advertising, Mr Dole is probably ensuring his own demise in three days' time in Chicago.

But none of the factors which have favoured Mr Bush need ensure that the man who has been chosen has the right stuff. True, Mr Bush has eight years' experience of being Vice-President — in which role he has enjoyed a

higher profile than most of his recent predecessors. True, he represents the middle ground in politics — so will probably be acceptable to the majority. But his lack of personality and wit ensures that, even after an enormously expensive pre-presidential campaign, the Republicans are moving in on a candidate who looks beatable.

In one respect at least, the Democrats have a natural advantage. After eight years of Republican administration, many Americans would probably settle for a change. They would hardly settle for any kind of change, but the right Democratic candidate could woo them with a reasonable hope of success. The question is whether the Democrats are likely to find such a person. At present, they seem to be mustering behind Governor Dukakis of Massachusetts, but with no great show of enthusiasm or certainty.

They may be hindered in finding the "right" candidate partly by the system of primary elections which has become so much part of the American political scene. As relatively inexperienced and little-known politicians can stand for the White House, they need to prove their vote-catching appeal to the electorate. The process, however, resembles a personality contest, rather than a political debate — and one in which money plays a large part. It can produce a political professional like Richard Nixon, an *ingenue* like Jimmy Carter, or unelectable candidates like George McGovern and Barry Goldwater. The result is by no means a sure guide to form. Is it really the best way of picking the world's most powerful statesman?

This time it looks as though the Americans will play safe. If Mr Bush and Mr Dukakis are left to fight it out for the White House in November, one centrist will confront another — inspiring none but acceptable to all. The United States in general and its Congress in particular is rich in talent — which is often deterred by the daunting trail to the White House. A system is needed which encourages the right men to win through.

POLLS APART

For the first time in three centuries, a whole year has passed without a parliamentary by-election and there is still none in sight. Since Matthew Taylor told Truro for the Liberals on March 12, 1987, the country has been denied one of those spectacular, if localized, tests of public opinion which cause such excitement at Westminster.

By-elections have become fewer and further between for many years. Between the wars there were, on average, 15 by-elections annually. Between 1945 and 1974, that had been reduced to 10. Since Mrs Thatcher came to office, the total has fallen still further — to less than five (if we leave out the mass resignation of 15 Ulster MPs).

The decline is partly because MPs tend now to retire earlier (so are less likely to die in office), or to be de-selected by their constituents. The main reason, however, is probably that governments have learnt to fear by-elections. This fear is now so great that MPs are even being denied peerages and public appointments. The political cost to their party of a by-election defeat is deemed to be too high.

The risk of defeat has certainly risen. From 1945 until 1964, only one by-election in 12 saw a change of control from one party to another. Since then, one in three has done so. In the last Parliament, the Government lost four of the nine seats it defended and was run close in two of the five it held.

The current paucity of by-elections has been welcome to all parties. The Labour Party, which is dutifully listening to the electorate before deciding its policies, must be happy to avoid the wide-ranging cross-examination that a by-election would encourage. The parties of the centre, too, must be relieved at the absence of a test during their quarrelsome regrouping. The Steelites have rejoiced especially, as

rumours about sick Tories in seats where Owenite candidates are strong have proved false.

Yet the Government also appears content with the lack of by-elections, even though it has been riding higher in the opinion polls than any government since the war at a comparable stage in its term. Perhaps it is because by-election campaigns are notoriously accident-prone. The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, has just lost one, apparently for advocating timed charges for local telephone calls. Who can say what a Thatcher utterance on the health service might not do to the prospects of an otherwise secure-looking Conservative candidate?

Yet the present fear of by-elections may be misplaced. The Government could do with strengthening its representation in the Lords, and there is room for more Conservative elder statesmen on public bodies. And while one would not wish to blight the electoral chances of any potential Conservative candidate, the Government could afford to risk a few by-election losses. This is one of the advantages of having so large a majority in the Commons, and there is time enough before the next general election to rebuild the confidence that might be undermined by an unexpected defeat.

By-elections can indeed be misleading. The Labour Party can recall a number of false dawns. From Lewisham (1957) to Fulham (1986). The Liberals were deceived by Orpington (1962) and by Greenwich (1987); and even the Conservatives can reflect sadly on Southwark (1880) (or late 1965). Even so, real electors voting for real MPs offer the most compelling message to the parties about how the nation is thinking, and a Government which persists in evading these periodic tests of popular feeling may live to rue the day.

War memorials up to date

From the Chairman of the Western Front Association
Sir, Dr Borg's letter (March 9) drawing attention to the lack of a national inventory of memorials to those who died in 20th century conflicts appears at an opportune time.

This association has, over the last few years, become increasingly concerned not only with the physical condition of many memorials but the threat to others caused by ignorance of their existence.

It has decided, therefore, to undertake the task of forming an inventory, so far as the First World War is concerned, for memorials of all types sited within the UK. The work will be undertaken voluntarily by members of the association and centralized with a view to eventual publication.

Information, especially on memorials not readily seen or normally accessible to the public, would be most welcome. Yours faithfully, DAVID A. COHEN, Chairman, Western Front Association, 67 Northway, NW11.

From Mr Peter Ewart
Sir, Dr Borg, of the Imperial War Museum, is right. A national project aimed at locating, recording, photographing and transcribing every war memorial should be started without delay. My wife and I have already embarked upon such a scheme covering Kent and East Sussex, for the very reasons outlined by your correspondent.

The importance of these memorials is self-evident in this, the 70th anniversary year of the Armistice. Officially-compiled casualty lists or rolls of honour which survive locally, even if published, cannot replace a readily accessible national index which lists, by locality, every name (and often rank, unit and decoration) on our war memorials. Such an archive would be invaluable to military, local and family historians, particularly in view of the loss, during the Second World War, of many of the individual soldiers' service records of the Great War.

Our efforts in this district are at an early stage but the index grows by several hundred names a week. They already include the most eminent, relevant and symbolic name among the long lists of the fallen, carved upon the memorial at Barham in Kent — that of Kitchener himself.

Yours faithfully, PETER EWART, 3 Tates, Hawkhurst, Kent.

Stamp of religion

From Mr Martin Horwood
Sir, Bernard Levin ("When Franking Incensates", March 7) is worried about my blood pressure, my mother, and even my job description — but not, apparently, by having his post franked with Mr Paul Slennet's slogan "Jesus is Alive". At least his vitriolic prose proves that the postmark is unquestionably controversial, thus disqualifying it under the Post Office's own rules.

Mr Levin wildly accuses me of losing all sense of proportion and of failing to consider even the possibility that Jesus might be alive. Humanists (like many Christians, but unlike Mr Levin) often contemplate the possibility of being wrong. It is in many ways the cornerstone of our commitment to a tolerant, diverse and free society. And it is that freedom which begins to be eroded when those in positions of authority allow the promotion of one set of loudly-advocated beliefs and ignore the feelings of those who sincerely and, usually quietly, disagree.

Many Christians, including Lord St John of Fawley (a rare ally in atheist circles), agree that a public service should not be used to print sectarian messages on private mail. And our concern is not that Jesus is verifiably deceased, but that the feelings of those of us who believe this to be the case should be respected.

Humanists also believe in treating others as we ourselves would prefer to be treated (thus departing even further from Mr Levin's beliefs). If the BHA had £50,000 to spare, we would not spend it on a postmark which might offend thousands of Christians, even if Sir Bryan Nicholson allowed us to do so. You might say that if we struck gold and were offered franks that might incense, we would have to demur.

Yours etc, MARTIN HORWOOD (Director of Development), British Humanist Association, 13 Prince of Wales Terrace, W8.

Cinema ticket sales

From Mr Jim Whittell
Sir, Contrary to Mr Sheridan Morley's impression (Diary, March 3), the Leicester Square Odeon does accept credit cards both on its 24-hour telephone booking line and at the ticket desk. It is normal practice in all cinemas and theatres for there to be two ticket sales points — one for advance bookings and one for tickets for the day's performances.

Mr Morley implied that only £7 tickets were available. He failed to mention that the price range also includes seats at £4, £5 and £6. Yours faithfully, JIM WHITTELL, Managing Director, Odeon Cinemas, 439 Godstone Road, Whyteleafe, Surrey.

The Earl of Perth's letter yesterday should have referred in the second sentence to the Irish and Ulster problems, not Welsh as printed.

A balancing act with the pound

From Mr John Redwood, MP for Wokingham (Conservative)
Sir, Your leader today (March 9) betrays many fashionable heresies concerning the conduct of economic and monetary policy.

There is an implied belief that it is in the power of government, whatever the pressures against a currency and whatever its relative economic performance, to peg its currency at some predetermined rate. Yet the history of the EMS (European Monetary System) is one of a series of realignments forced on reluctant governments by the forces of footloose money and shifting sentiment.

There is a bland assumption that inflation will take care of itself if the whole conduct of economic policy is geared to maintaining the rate of DM3 to £1. No evidence is produced to support this contention.

The leader does not think through the consequences of more intervention in the exchanges, whether to hold the pound up or keep it down. Intervention itself can swell the monetary aggregates. This can then necessitate the sale of Government stocks to fund the intervention. So a government which doesn't need to borrow is then forced to borrow to try to rig its currency value; this in turn keeps interest rates higher than they need be!

How will we know whether monetary policy is prudent if the figures are massively distorted both ways by intervention in currency markets? Yours faithfully, JOHN REDWOOD, House of Commons, March 9.

From Professor Patrick Minford
Sir, Your correspondent (leading article, March 9) about the rising pound and would prefer that we join the EMS. Yet you agree that monetary policy should be tight and that there was a conflict between this objective and the policy of holding the pound down.

Your two positions are blatantly inconsistent. If the pound must rise to achieve monetary tightness, how could monetary tightness still be achieved with the EMS holding the pound constant?

Your portrayal of monetary targets is also wrong. You say that the Chancellor had "effectively given up money supply targets altogether". But there was and is

an official target for the monetary base, MO, much stressed in official statements and, it must be said, studiously adhered to in practice. Recently, MO has been giving warning signals by running close to the ceiling of its range, 2.6 per cent. While it has come below 5 per cent, its range will need to be lowered for the next financial year to bring inflation down.

The target range reported for the Deutschemark was unconfirmed and very much of a trial to see whether we are yet ready for full membership of the EMS. Clearly, this episode confirms that we are not.

We would all like to see certainty in many things, including exchange rates. But such certainty requires consistency in other aspects of policy. Until the UK shares German price stability, such certainty is beyond our grasp. For this reason you should wholeheartedly welcome the recent move to bring down inflation decisively.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK MINFORD, The University of Liverpool, Department of Economic and Business Studies, Eleanor Rathbone Building, PO Box 147, Liverpool, March 10.

From Dr J. E. Meade, FBA
Sir, In today's Times (March 10) you report the call of Sir David Nickson, President of the CBI, for a cut in interest rates combined, if necessary, with fiscal policies designed to control inflation. Surely this is the appropriate mix of monetary and budgetary policies when our balance of payments on current account needs to be promoted by a low, rather than worsened by a high, rate of foreign exchange and when at the same time an inflationary rise of total money expenditures needs to be restrained rather than encouraged.

The Chancellor has an ideal chance of following the sale of the family silver with a redemption of the family mortgage, thereby preparing an even more glorious opportunity for the day when the family expenditures can appropriately be boosted.

Yours faithfully, J. E. MEADE, 40 High Street, Little Shelford, Cambridge, March 10.

Fairer share for all from Budget

From J. L. Nicholson
Sir, Three of your recent contributors have expressed the paradoxical view that a substantial reduction in the top rate of income tax would lead to an increase in income tax revenue — a most comforting view if only it were true. But, alas, the evidence on which it is primarily based — the results of a small study in the USA, which is unlikely to be typical of the UK, let alone the UK — is highly questionable.

If tax rates are reduced, the revenue from income tax can rise only if incomes rise. But incomes are continuing to rise and boosting the revenue from fixed rates and bands of income tax. There is simply no way of distinguishing this "natural" increase in incomes from increases which may result from the extra incentive of reduced income tax.

Besides, in what industries are earnings directly related to performance and workers (apart from the self-employed) able to control their output levels in response to changes in marginal rates of income tax?

Having already reduced the top rate of income tax from 87 per cent to 60 per cent, the Chancellor should now be thinking about making concessions which would benefit people with modest incomes. The simplest way to do this would be to raise the tax thresholds, thereby reducing both the numbers paying tax and the work of the Inland Revenue.

There can be no mistaking the damaging effects on productivity of the resentment caused by wide and growing disparities in incomes, as nurses, seamen and miners have recently borne witness.

Yours truly, J. LEONARD NICHOLSON, 53 Frogna, NW3, March 8.

Head to head

From Professor Emeritus A. J. E. Cave
Sir, Your correspondent Mr Charles Langmaid (March 8) correctly indicates that the method of creating facial appearance from the facial skeleton currently employed by workers in the Manchester University Medical School (report and photograph, February 25) is not new. He appears, however, to credit the technique employed with a validity it does not possess, in view of its inutility in connection with the head reconstruction of prehistoric man and fossil primates.

It is possible, within reason, to reconstruct the mass of the major masticatory and nuchal muscles of a given skull but quite impossible accurately to estimate the degree of development of the associated facial musculature and subcutaneous tissue or the precise configuration of the lips, the external nose and the external ear. Hence to a given skull several "faces" may be assigned, no one of which may be true to nature.

Correlation of skull and soft parts is practicable only when a life portrait, a life bust or a death mask is available for comparison with the skeletal remains. Even photographs, taken from the same angle, of the living head and associated skull, may prove surprisingly dissimilar.

A male skeleton preserved in the anatomy department of the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine displays a cranium so leptoprosopic as to give the impression of a lean, narrow-faced individual, whereas, as photographs show, the living man was obviously broad-faced from abundance of subcutaneous fat.

Yours faithfully, A. J. E. CAVE, 18 Orchard Avenue, Church End, Finchley, N3.

Unkindest cut

From Mr A. R. Newman
Sir, Mr M. A. Wyldeborne-Smith (March 10) might be further intrigued to know that the new Army bayonet has a saw, barbed wire cutters, a sharpening stone, a bottle opener, a fitting for a tin opener and a scalloped edge for cutting rope.

While not equipped with a corkscrew or hoof-pick, this British bayonet does have a sharp point, with which the soldier can engage his enemy.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 12 1917

The crossing of the Tigris and the fall of Baghdad might seem to be incidents from an ancient chronicle; in fact they were facts leading up to an English victory in the First World War. Sadly, the victor, General Maude died of cholera only a few days after the success of his forces.

THE CROSSING OF THE TIGRIS.

ATTACK IN A BLINDING DUST-STORM.

The official announcement of the capture of the city was made in the following statement, issued by the Press Bureau at 7 o'clock last night:

Sir Stanley Maude, telegraphing on March 11, announces that the British forces occupied Baghdad early that morning.

No further details have yet been received.

The previous announcements describing the operations leading up to the occupation of the city are as follows:

SATURDAY.

The GOC Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force telegraphed on the evening of March 7 that our gunboats and cavalry discovered the enemy to be holding the line of the Diale River.

On March 8 our troops were engaged with the enemy, who held the above line in some strength.

The position evacuated without resistance by the enemy at Ctesiphon on March 6 had been most carefully prepared, and it is clear that he intended to hold it. The evacuation was probably due to the rapidity of our advance from Aziz.

SUNDAY.

In continuation of the announcement that our forces were engaged with the enemy on the line of the Diale, on the night of March 8 our troops succeeded, in spite of bright moonlight, in effecting a surprise crossing of the Diale and in establishing a strong post on the right bank of that river.

Meanwhile, on the morning of the 9th, the Tigris having been bridged at some distance downstream from the confluence of the Diale, a strong British detachment marched up the right bank and found the enemy holding a position about six miles southwest of Baghdad. The enemy was driven from his position to another two miles in rear.

During the night of March 9 the passage of the Diale was forced, and our troops advanced some four miles towards Baghdad.

During the 9th our forces on the right bank drove the enemy from his second position, bivouacking on the ground gained. This advantage, in spite of blinding dust-storms and a violent gale, was pressed on the morning of the 10th, the Turks being forced back to within three miles west and south-west of Baghdad.

PHAM HUNG
... Vietnam war

... LA RICKS

March 12-18 1988

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

How did they manage it?



LARRY PARNES

Larry Parnes, a father figure to his stars, he marketed their sex appeal with caution in an era when Cliff Richard was considered outrageous. His acts included (clockwise from top right): Billy Fury, Tommy Steele, Marty Wilde and Joe Brown

BILLY FURY
TOMMY STEELE
MARTY WILDE
JOE BROWN



BRIAN EPSTEIN

Brian Epstein, self-conscious and repressed, but an instinctive tycoon. His acts included (clockwise from top right): Billy J. Kramer, the Beatles, Cilla Black and Gerry and the Pacemakers



MALCOLM MCCLAREN

Malcolm McLaren, always in search of fresh excesses. But was he just another opportunist in Robin Hood's clothing? His acts included (clockwise from top right): the Sex Pistols, Adam and the Ants, Bow Wow Wow and the New York Dolls



The classic pop impresario remains an intriguing and elusive figure, a strange hybrid of gambler and godfather, rebel and realist, outsider and establishment tycoon. There is a famous yarn circulating in the pop music industry about a man with a van who one rainy night meets a group of lads with musical instruments by the roadside. Their transport has broken down and in their desperation to get to their booking, they agree to borrow his vehicle on the condition that they pay him a hefty percentage of their future earnings.

The deal is clinched in a scribble on the back of an envelope and they roar off to the draughty hall. One year later they are on the road to untold wealth in the charts, fathers throughout the nation swear they would never let their daughters marry one and, shylock-like, the man exacts his unscrupulous bond until their only chance of release from his clutches lies with the courts of law.

Like the fisherman's tale, it grows taller with every telling, but like the good story that it is, with its central images of fortune, a road and a chance encounter, it acquires the essence of a parable. In the extraordinary world of stardom, greed and gullibility may go hand in hand, but the chances are that in nine out of 10 such encounters the man with the van will do better in life by virtue of his optimism than will the lads by virtue of their musical proficiency. The single most important rule for success as a svengali is that there shall be no rules whatsoever. These maverick fortune makers simply appear and make fortunes, irregularly and unpredictably. Or do they? Whenever the question, "Where are the new Beatles?" is asked, should it not really be, "Where is the new Brian Epstein?"

The explosion of the pop industry since the late 1950s has thrown up a bewildering assortment of eminences grises, from the implausible, godfatherly figure of Larry Parnes, to the turbulent Malcolm McLaren, begueter of the forgettable and all but forgotten Sex Pistols. They, and a collection of humbler counterparts, come in for some affectionate but clear-eyed scrutiny in a study shortly to be published by the author and music critic Johnny Rogan. These men — there is even today not a woman of note in the field — have amassed vast personal wealth and built commercial empires on the disposable income of teenagers; they have frequently endured far beyond the appeal of their first products, and influenced the popular culture of whole generations.

Yet if there is a genius common to these millionaires, it is impossible to define, so diverse have been their methods and their motives. Seldom has there been an area in which the obscurity of the

Is the pop svengali really extinct? A new book suggests that no one has filled the shoes of men like Larry Parnes and Brian Epstein. Alan Franks looks back at the heyday of the starmakers

manager has been in sharper contrast to the fame of the managed.

Brian Epstein was, of course, an exception, but not through his own making: the Beatles were such a monstrous phenomenon that there were no bounds to public curiosity. Yet even in his prominence, Epstein remained an enigma to the day he died, and not surprisingly so. Here was a dress designer *marqué*, a cosseted (and closeted) homosexual product of a wealthy Jewish couple in Liverpool. But above all, he was a most unlikely consumer of the raw music of the city's Cavern Club.

Time and again that characteristic emerges among the starmakers — the sheer comedy of their being involved in such a seamy business. In Epstein's case it would probably never have happened but for a young customer walking into his record shop one afternoon late in 1961 and asking for a disc called "My Bonnie". Epstein was, at this time outwardly thriving in the manner of the commercially dutiful son, while inside he was thoroughly bored and listless.

The record turned out to be by an unknown group called the Beatles, of whom the young customer remarked, quite correctly, to the 27-year-old, middle-class Sibelius lover, "You won't have heard of them." The rest is, as they say, history: Epstein's extraordinary tenacity, and a degree of acumen strange from someone expelled from Liverpool College for having been "well below standard" are well-known.

Less quantifiable but just as significant was the way in which the Beatles in particular and the burgeoning rock scene in general provided him with the stuff of vicarious rebellion: it is impossible to assess his dynamism without accepting that in the very act of becoming a starmaker, he was also living out a late adolescence by proxy.

Not so with his great forbear Larry Parnes, manager of so many male solo stars in the dawn of British rock 'n' roll — Tommy Steele, Marty Wilde, Vince Eager, Billy Fury, Duffy Power, Joe

Brown... the list carries on into the obscurity of bold attempts... Terry Dene, Nelson Keene, Peter Wynne. If it were possible to talk in terms of born impresarios, then Parnes would be of their number. At the age of eight he organized his first show in Cliftonville, Kent, featuring a cast of child artists and yielding a profit of £2 15s.

Although rock purists may accuse Parnes of heresy — they certainly did so at the time — his desire to transform his most lucrative act and most thoroughbred star, Tommy Steele, into an all-round entertainer was perfectly logical. In 1956 it seemed unthinkable that British rock could develop in a void outside the sphere of traditional show business. Hence for Parnes, with his wealth of experience and showbiz connections, conformity was implicit in Steele's rise to fame: serious rebellion would have been uncommercial and snuffed out.

Moreover, the fact that this new music was regarded as a passing "craze" rather than a movement with a future, precluded any thoughts about a long-term career in this area. He might have become the champion of rock 'n' roll, but he never saw it as an end in itself. For the next few years he was to nurture the "craze" as lovingly, and with as fierce a loyalty to his young hopefuls as any entrepreneur of his era.

This much he had in common with Epstein: the difference was that, in the manner of a protective parent, he trusted that his offspring would one day grow up and marry into the richer and more secure family of show business. In the end, only Steele justified the philosophy behind such patronage and the rest, with the possible exception of George Formby, went the way of the unreclaimed prodigal.

Andrew Oldham (Rolling Stones, Marianne Faithfull etc) was different again, owing far more to the man-with-the-van style of self-advancement than did

either Parnes or Epstein. More than any of his contemporaries, and more even than Malcolm McLaren, he identified shamelessly with his own leading act. He had sufficient neck to talk his way into the Stones' camp after seeing them play at the old Station Hotel in Richmond, and to persuade them to drop their founding father, Giorgio Gomelsky.

He also had one of the cardinal virtues in this game — the sheer youthful gall to disregard precedent. Far from showing concern about the group's anarchic image, as Parnes would have done (even Epstein's mop-top were lauded free from menace), he positively revelled in the chaos. Interestingly enough, it was Epstein whom Oldham first approached, without success, when he sought a backer for the Stones.

In addition to this, he had the ability to make himself loudly unpleasant at other people's press conferences. One innocent victim of this play was the quite harmless Petula Clark, the product of an entirely different celebrity value system. Parnes gave her a reception, only to have it geysered by a mob of foul-mouthed, long-haired scruffs, including Oldham himself, sporting Rolling Stones T-shirts. It was behaviour coolly designed to meet the public taste for outrage, and the tabloids, tipped off in advance, duly salivated.

In the opinion of Johnny Rogan, Oldham will always be regarded as one of the great reforming forces of a peculiar craft, even though he concedes that "his contemporaries still question the depth of his vision". Perhaps the most telling analysis of the Oldham approach comes from another immensely successful manager, Ken Pitt (Manfred Mann, David Bowie and others), whose own style was pure caution and sobriety by comparison: "Oldham was unique in that he was one of the Rolling Stones. It was almost as if there were six schoolboys and one of them wasn't any good so they pointed at him and said, 'You be the manager'. It worked because everything about his personality fitted in so beautifully with the boys. I don't think he was a good manager in the administrative sense, but he was the man to promote them and dream up those wonderful stunts... he couldn't be in one place long enough to manage. He was a rolling stone."

In the supposedly revisionist 1970s you look in vain for a new style of svengali. Indeed, the most conspicuously successful of them, Malcolm McLaren (New York Dolls, Sex Pistols, Adam and the Ants) harked back to the tested formula of none other than Larry Parnes, and he did so knowingly. One of his pet theories was that the very same sort of influence wielded by Parnes 20 years earlier could somehow be revitalized during his own barren and loveless decade. Just like Parnes he would

pluck youths from the dole queues, package and label them and launch them on to the public like an avenging socialist angel.

Yet Sid Vicious, Johnny Rotten and the rest, for all their dead-eyed raffishness, were utterly shorn of romance or rationale beyond that of quick bucks, birds and booze, and therein is the final irony of McLaren's message.

His victory, argues Johnny Rogan, was "momentarily won in the heat of aesthetic confusion... with their own standards and DIY record labels, the kids could effectively deride such concepts as art and technique and even dismiss history as ageing."

"The complacent British record industry, for all its market research, could not prevent a spanner from entering the works. The offending tool was soon removed, but considerable damage was done, mainly to the careers of self-important elder rock statesmen, many of whom suddenly found themselves obsolete."

There are no young Epsteins in evidence today. The nearest to being such figures are men like Rob Gretton (Joy Division, New Order) and Steve (Soft Cell, The The). According to his associates, Steve does at least act as an effective buffer between his artists and clings with a puritanical zeal

to his loathing for the large capitalist record companies.

Parnes, Epstein and Oldham are, just like Tommy Steele, the Beatles and the Stones, hard acts to follow, and the svengali manager may be a dormant species. But it would be premature to hold a wake. Just like the charismatic leader in politics his appeal is too universal to be denied the chance of a cyclical revival when he and the market re-discover each other. When that happens, everyone will know about it, and very quickly.

Starmakers & Svengalis by Johnny Rogan is to be published by Macdonald Queen Anne Press (£12.95) next Thursday.

THE DISCERNING PERSON'S GUIDE TO LONDON

THE TERRACE GARDEN RESTAURANT

Foodies Paradise. A tastebud tour of Alsace.

Every evening from the 14th to the 19th March our tranquil Terrace Garden Restaurant will go Alsace. To help us, we are flying in chef Louis Schneidenmann from the prestigious Chateau d'Isenbourg especially to create the 'true flavour' of the Alsace region of France. Mouth watering dishes such as *Chateaufort de Brochet et Homard au Riesling*, or *Millefeuille aux Pommes Parfumées au Marc de Gewurztraminer*. All washed down with a bottle or two of the local wine. What more can we say? To the true Foodie, anything else will just be superfluous. The 3 course menu, excluding wine, starts at £18.00. Open till 1am. last orders 10.45pm. To reserve a table call 01-734 8000 ext 3452.

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...and the best of Europe

Von Karajan's new *Tosca* at Salzburg ... patriotic song in Finland ...
Barenboim's new *Ring* at Bayreuth ... *Il Seraglio* in Istanbul ...
Hilary Finch finds boundless variety in Europe's music and arts centres

MARCH

BUDAPEST SPRING FESTIVAL: Highlights of this year's 1,000 events in more than 100 venues include a new production of *The Merry Widow*, performances of Bartók's *Wooden Prince*, *Miraculous Mandarin* and *Bluebeard's Castle*, and *Fedeli's Holy Jans*.
March 18-27: 1145 Budapest, Korong utca 28, Postbox 1441, P41, Hungary (010 36 83389). Heritage offer trip from Mar 17-24 at £550.

CUENCA RELIGIOUS MUSIC FESTIVAL: Cuenca's historic buildings are the venue for performances by the Chapelle Royale de Paris (Lully and Rameau), the Concertos Vocales de Vienna (Haydn's *Queen of the Night* and the Mozart *Vespers*) and the musicians of the Gutenberg Foundation, Lisbon (Mozart *Requiem*).
March 21-27: Semanas de Musica Religiosa, Pafos 1, 16001 Cuenca, Spain (010 34 68 22811).

LUCERNE EASTER FESTIVAL: Opens with Caldeiron's *El gran Teatro del Mundo*, and continues with concerts by the Czech Philharmonic, the Royal Philharmonic, the Tallis Choir of London.
March 18-28: International Festival of Music, PO Box 6002 Lucerne, Switzerland (010 41 28272).

SALZBURG EASTER FESTIVAL: Salzburg's 80th birthday celebration offers his new production of *Tosca*.
March 27-April 4: Osterfestspiele Salzburg, Festspielhaus, 5010 Salzburg (010 43 662 842541).

MADRID FLAMENCO FESTIVAL: Song, dance and guitar music as the spring flamenco celebrations in the Andalusian region hot up.
April 6-18: Ministerio de Cultura, Oficina de Coordinación Artística, Plaza del Rey 1, 28004 Madrid (010 34 91 42284).

MONTE-CARLO PRINTEMPS DES ARTS: The festival of the beautiful people presents *Camargo's opera*, *Il pittore* (origins, recitals by Alfred Brendel and Renato Scotto, and concerts of sacred music by Les Arts Florissants.

APRIL 1-24: 4 Rue des Iris, 98000, Monaco (010 33 9325804).

NORMAN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL: The Musikhuset in Arhus provides the setting for Denmark's most important festival of new classical music by international composers.
April 27-May 1: Musikhuset, Arhus, Denmark (010 45 1 134344).

MAY

BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: The setting is Grieg's home at Troldhaugen. This year features Mahler's Eighth Symphony, Penderick's Polish Requiem and performances by Tom Krause, the Modern Jazz Quartet, the Drottningholm Baroque Ensemble.
April 27-May 1: Musikhuset, Arhus, Denmark (010 45 1 134344).

COPENHAGEN CHRISTIAN IV FESTIVAL: Celebrating Christian IV's accession to the throne, a full programme of exhibitions and events, with a festival of music from the age of the monarch.
May 27-June 3: Royal Theatre Festival Office, PO Box 2185, 1017 Copenhagen K (010 45 1 322020).

COPENHAGEN FESTIVAL OF BALLET AND OPERA: Performances of *The Kermesse at Bruges*, *Evita Medigen*, *The Moor's Romance*, Boris Godunov, *Rosenkavalier* and a new *Così fan tutte*.
May 2-June 12: address as above.

ISRAEL FESTIVAL: Performances include *Nabucco* in the Sultan's Pool, *The Turn of the Screw*, *The Lighthouse*, the Théâtre du Soleil, Béjart ballet and recitals by the Beaux Arts Trio, Pogorelich, Schreier, Mathis and Keith Jarrett.
May 14-June 11: PO box 4072, 91040 Jerusalem (010 57 2 667167).

MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO: This year focuses on the work of Benjamin Britten and opens with a new production, by Jean-Pierre Ponnelle, of *Peter Grimes*.
May 12-June 1: Cinema: production by Olmi of Puccini's *Turkic*, by Jarman of Bussetti's *L'ispirazione*, and a short season of Jarman films

including *Caravaggio* and *Sebastians*.
April 29-June 30: Teatro Comunale, Via Solferino 15, Florence (010 39 55 262841). Prospect plan a trip: details on request.

MOSCOW STARS ARTS FESTIVAL: Pushkin, Gogol and Chekhov, with evenings of 18th and 19th century Russian, Italian and German chamber opera. Dance and folk concerts and evenings of ancient Russian choral music at the former Znamensky Cathedral.
May 5-13: Intourist offer trips

VIENNA SPRING FESTIVAL: New opera productions include *Pelléas et Mélisande* with Frederica von Stade, *Der Freischütz*, Schubert's *Faust*, directed by Ruth Berghaus. Plus recitals by Christa Ludwig, Gwyneth Jones, Peter Schreier and Hermann Prey.
May 7-June 12: Wiener Festwochen, Freidrich-Schmidt Platz 4, 1080 Wien (010 43 222 586167). Hensberg offer a six-day trip departing June 2 at £380 for B&B.

ARLES FESTIVAL OF POPULAR ARTS AND TRADITIONS: This year hosts performances by regional companies in its Roman theatre, churches, and streets.
June-July: 35 Place de la République, 13200 Arles (010 33 9056 4700).

ATHENS FESTIVAL: Three months of opera, ballet, ancient and modern theatre by Greek companies and international artists.
June 18-Sept 24: Athens Festival, 1 Voukourestion Street, Athens 10564 (010 30 1 3230049).

DROTTHINGHOLM COURT THEATRE FESTIVAL: This year's programme includes a new production of *La finta giardiniera*, and revivals of *La clemenza di Tito* and *Paride ed Elena*.
June 4-Sept 7: Drottningholms Slottsteater, Box 27050, 10251 Stockholm (010 46 8 608225). Sovereign offer three and four-night packages, from £453 for B&B, and tickets for two operas. Dep July 11, 17 and 21. Heritage combine with Savonlinna (qv) at £1,290 for five operas, dep July 13-21.

GRAMADA FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND DANCE: International orchestra

concerts, choral and dance groups and flamenco artists.
June 18-July 6: Dirección del Festival, Aptdo 84, 18009 Granada (010 34958 225201).

MOHRENBACH SCHUBERTIAD: This year includes recitals by Robert Holl, Oskar Basar, Brigitta Fassbender, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau.
June 13-28: Postfach 100,8845 Hohenems, Austria (010 43 55 762091). Sovereign offer five-night trips, departing June 9 and 22. Prices from £411. Heritage offer trips departing June 13-20 and 20-27 at £755 for half-board and tickets to five performances. Hensberg go from June 15-21 at £325 for half-board.

HOLLAND FESTIVAL: Opera, dance, non-Western music and youth theatre, including performances of *Nixon in China*, *Così fan tutte*, a concert performance of Stockhausen's *Morgen aus Licht* and *L'Orestie*.
June 1-30: Kleins-Gartenplantsoen 21, 1017 RP Amsterdam (010 31 20 276586).

ISTANBUL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: Performances in Byzantine and Ottoman styles of Mozart's *Il Seraglio*, visits from the BBC Philharmonic, Moscow Chamber Orchestra, Jorge Bolet.
June 15-July 20: Istanbul Kultur ve Sanat Vakfi, Yildiz Beşiktaş, Istanbul 80700 (010 90 1 604533). Prospect plan a trip: details on request.

JOENSUU (FINLAND) SONG FESTIVAL: This year's theme is "Song of action": revivalist, '60s protest, patriotism.
June 20-28: Koskikatu 9, 00101 Joensuu, Finland (010 358 973 201372).

KUOPIO (FINLAND) DANCE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL: Dancing from local and visiting groups from France, Poland, and Australia. The City Theatre is used for performances and open rehearsals.
June 8-12: Tullinkatu 27, 70100 Kuopio, Finland (010 358 971 221844).

LAPLAND FESTIVAL 88: Ten days of chamber music.
First week: June-first week July: Lapland Festival, Linnegatan 27, 11447 Stockholm, Sweden (010 46 8 618247).

LENINGRAD WHITE NIGHTS: Special performances of classical and pop music by the Kirov State Opera and Ballet, and concerts by students of the Agrippina Vaganova School of Choreography.
June 21-28: Intourist offer a two-week tour, taking in Moscow and Leningrad, departing June 18, £558 full board and three theatre visits. Heritage offer a trip from June 17-26, again combining with Moscow, at £1,250 for four performances and full board. Sovereign offer a 10-night trip, departing June 19 at £874 for full board and a selection of festival events.

MIDNIGHT SUN FILM FESTIVAL SODANKYLÄ: Directors show and discuss their work.
June 16-20: Sodankylä, Finland (010 358 90 410294).

NAANTALI (FINLAND) MUSIC FESTIVAL: International chamber music-making in the medieval churches of Naantali and its surroundings. Artists include the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Nash Ensemble, Isaac Stern, Robert Holl, and Horowitz.
June 12-24: Tullinkatu 12, 21100 Naantali (010 358 941 615624).

NORDIC FIDDLERS FESTIVAL: Concerts and workshops of folk music and dance from Denmark, Sweden, and Norway.
June 11-18: Lunden, Silkeborg, Denmark (010 45 8 821911).

SPOLETO FESTIVAL OF THE TWO WORLDS: Hollywood prints, American students, and Europe's beautiful people mix with the carabini and local artists in the heart of the Umbrian summer. Gian-Carlo Menotti's own festival includes 11th-century opera, theatre, exhibitions; young musicians' midday concerts in churches are well worth visiting.
June 28-July 17: Associazione festival del due mondi, Via Margutta 17, 1-00187 Roma, Italy (010 39 86 8041).

ZURICH FESTIVAL: Theme this year is "13th-century music", with performances of Heinrich Mann's *Lidice*, Frisch's *Andorra* at the Schauspielhaus and exhibitions of Fritz Wotruba drawings. Plus concerts including Schoenberg's *Survival on Warsaw* and *Hörsner's Second Symphony*.
May 26-July 1: Internationale Juni-Festwochen, Präfekturverwaltung der Stadt Zürich, Postfach, 8022 Zürich (010 41 1 2163111).

AIX-EN-PROVENCE FESTIVAL D'ART LYRIQUE ET DE MUSIQUE: This year includes a new *Clemenza di Tito*, *Così fan tutte* and Rossini's *Armida*.
July 4-Aug 8: Bureau de Festival, Palais de l'ancien Archevêché, 13100 Aix-en-Provence (010 33 233781). Hensberg offer a trip from July 22-28 at £325 for half-board, tickets extra. Sovereign offer a five-night package at £451 for B&B, one opera and two other events. Prospect plan a trip: details on request.

AVIGNON FESTIVAL: France's leading theatre festival includes plays of Paul Claudel, Robert Pinget and Harold Pinter.
July 8-Aug 8: Association de Gestion du Festival d'Avignon, 8 Bis Rue de Mars 84000 Avignon (010 33 16 90826708).

BAD ISCHL OPERETTA WEEKS: Performances in the Kurhaus of the works of Franz Lehár and others.
July 4-Aug 28: Operettenwochen Bad Ischl, Herbergsasse 32, 4820 Bad Ischl Austria (010 43 61 323839).

BATIGNANO: MUSICA NEL CIOSTRO: Adam Pollock's young company performs early and contemporary opera in the cloister of a convent including J.C. Bach's *Trois Noëls*, directed by Graham Vick, and a double-bill of Mendelssohn's *Die Lorelei*.
End July-begin Aug: Santa

Croce, 59041 Batignano, Comune di Grosseto (010 39 56 438096).

BREGENZ FESTIVAL: This year offers *The Tales of Hoffman* and *Samson et Dalila*.
July 21-Aug 23: Bregenzer Festspiele, Postfach 19, Bregenz, Austria (010 43 557 422811). Sovereign offer seven-night packages from £411, for half-board and tickets to both operas. Heritage dep Aug 2-10, at £735 for half-board, both operas and two concerts. Hensberg dep Aug 6-12 at £373 for half-board, with tickets of own choice extra.

BRUGES 25TH EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL OF FLANDERS: This year's theme is "Musica Britannica", and the festival starts with a week's international organ competition.
July 19-Aug 15: Collège Saint-Jean, 30,000 Bruges, Belgium (010 30 352293).

CHOREGIES D'ORANGE: Opera in one of Provence's finest Roman theatres.
Mid-July-mid-Aug: Chorégies d'Orange, Postbox 180, 84105 Orange, France (010 33 90 343434).

COPENHAGEN JAZZ FESTIVAL: Huges variety of open air and indoor concerts.
July 1-10: Copenhagen Jazz Festival, Copenhagen (010 45 1 117538).

DUBROVNIK FESTIVAL: A maelstrom atmosphere takes over during the annual festival of ballet, theatre, folklore, and other events.
July 10-Aug 25: Dubrovnik Festival, Od Sigurata 1, 5000 Dubrovnik (010 38 50 27996).

KUMMO (FINLAND) CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL: Set in a small village in the north-east Finnish countryside, one of the country's most rewarding festivals focuses this year on Mozart's String Quartets and Russian music from Glinka to Schnittke. More than 80 concerts in two weeks, with some all-night events.
July 17-31: Lutherinkatu 12A2, 00100 Helsinki (010 358 90 493002).

LJUBLJANA INTERNATIONAL SUMMER FESTIVAL: A busy festival season in the capital of Slovenia, with its baroque and renaissance old town. Concerts and recitals with visiting artists including the Moscow and Croatian Philharmonics. Talks in the 11th-century Opera House (June 27-July 7). Programme to be announced.
July 27-Aug 31: Festival Ljubljana, Trg Francoske Revolucije 1, 61000 Ljubljana, Yugoslavia (010 38 61 221948).

MACERATA FESTIVAL: An open air festival including *Macbeth* (with Zampieri), *Carman* (Valentini-Terrani), and *Tosca* (Eva Marton).
July 19-Aug 17: Arena Sferisterio, Piazza della libertà, Macerata, Italy (010 39 733 49500). Pegasus offer a seven-night package, dep Aug 7, from £559 for B&B and three opera tickets. Prospect plan a trip: details on request.

MONTEPULCIANO CANTIERE INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE: One of Italy's liveliest festivals for young musicians and composers.
July 23-Aug 10: Comune di Montepulciano, Siena, Italy (010 39378 757089).

MÖRISCH LAKESIDE OPERA: Performances of Strauss's *Eine Nacht in Venedig*, Lehár, and Kalman.
Mid-July-end Aug: Seespiele Mörisch, Seestrasse 4, 7072 Mörisch, Austria (010 43 28 858232).

MÜNCHEN FESTIVAL: Richard Strauss with mostly new productions of *Die Liebe der Danae*, *Intermezzo*, *Capriccio*, recitals by Fischer-Dieskau and Klemperer.
July 4-31: Bayerische Staatsoper, Münchner Opernfestspiele, Postfach 745, 8000 München 1 (010 49 89 21851). Sovereign offer three four-night trips, dep July 7, 14 and 28, each with a different programme of operas. From £359, including B&B and tickets for three or four operas.

ORLANDO FESTIVAL: The 12th century Rolduc Abbey at Kerkdare, near Maasricht, is the setting for a fortnight of chamber music, focusing on performances by the Orlando Quartet. This year's theme is British music, with visits from the Nash Ensemble and Borodin Trio.
July 10-24: Huismuziek, Vereniging voor muziek en instrumentbouw, PO Box 350, 3400 AJ IJsselstein, Netherlands (010 31 340885678).

ROSKILDE FESTIVAL: One of Europe's most important rock and folk festivals.
July 1-3: Roskilde, Copenhagen, Denmark (010 45 2 570448).

SAVONLINNA OPERA FESTIVAL: This year features a new production of *Macbeth*, with *Carman* and *Madam Butterfly* in Chinese, as well as productions of *Aida*, *Die Zauberköte*, and *Der fliegende Holländer*.
July 2-31: Savonlinna Opera Festival, Oulunkatu 35, 57130 Savonlinna, Finland (010 358 57 25884). JMB offer air and sea trips and two/three-night packages from £399. Heritage combine with Drottningholm dep July 13-21 at £1,290.

SZOMBATHÉLY INTERNATIONAL BARTOK SEASON AND FESTIVAL: Festivals of contemporary and avant-garde music in a programme of courses, workshops and concerts. This year focuses on Stockhausen.
July 17-Aug 1: Interkoncert Festivalbureau, Postbox 80, 1366 Budapest, Hungary (010 36 1 779910).

TORRE DEL LAGO: This year features *La Rondine*, *Turandot*, *Il tabarro* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*.
July 24-Aug 16: JMB offer two or three-night packages with wide ranges of price options. Pegasus offer three or seven-night stays from £399 including B&B and two tickets. Can combine with Verona or Macerata (qv).

VERONA 56TH OPERA FESTIVAL: Opera, ballet, and a handful of concerts in Verona's open air arena. Programme includes *La Gioconda*, *Aida*, and *Turandot*.
July 2-Aug 31: Erna Arena, Piazza Bra 28, 37121 Verona, Italy (010 39 45 2352).

VERONA OFFER SEVEN-NIGHT STAYS departing throughout the season, from £459-£736 for half-board and tickets for 2 or 3 operas. Heritage take one party from Aug 8-14 at £1350 for half-board plus three tickets. Hensberg combine with Venice and offer a trip dep Aug 8-16 at £599 for half-board and three operas. Also dep July 18-24 at £485 Verona only. Brompton go from July 18-24 at £575 for half-board and tickets for three operas. JMB offer air or sea-drive, 2 or 3-night stays from £269. Pegasus offer a four or seven-night stay from £399 including three operas, or twinning with La Scala, based at Lake Garda: four nights, half board and tickets for £633.

AUGUST

BA VREUTH RICHARD WAGNER FESTIVAL: This year a new *Ring*, directed by Harry Kupfer and conducted by Daniel Barenboim. Also *Lohengrin* (Schneider/Hertzog), *Meistersinger* (Schneider/Wagner), *Parsifal* (Levine/Friedrich).
July 26-Aug 20: Postfach 100262, Bayreuth 8580 (010 49 521 20221). Hensberg go from Aug 17-22 and 22-29 at £426, tickets extra.

HELSINKI FESTIVAL: Chamber music, jazz and dance by visitors including Messiaen, Rostropovich, Ortiz, Pavarotti, Auger, and the Hagen and Brands Quartets, and the Groupe de Recherche chorégraphique de Paris.
Aug 25-Sept 11: Unioninkatu 28, 00100 Helsinki, Finland (010 358 90 859888).

LUCERNE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC: Special

BRATISLAVA MUSIC FESTIVAL: Concerts by the Czech Philharmonic, the RLPO, the Nash Ensemble, and recitals by Gabriela Benackova and Fou Song.
Sept 27-Oct 13: Michalská 10, 81538 Bratislava, Czechoslovakia (010 38 334528). Cedo offer a one-week package departing September 27, at £358 including three days in Prague and three tickets.

INTERNATIONAL BRUCHNER FESTIVAL: LITZ: Features a concert performance of *Die Walküre*, and LPO concerts.
Sept 10-Oct 1: Linzer Veranstaltungsgesellschaft, Postfach 57, 4010 Linz (010 43 732 75230).

STYRIAN AUTUMN FESTIVAL: GRAZ: This year's theme is "Guilt and Guiltlessness in Art" and includes a radio play on the life of Hans Jürgen Syberberg. Kager's *Tanzschule*, the usual Music Protocol (Oct 20-23), workshops, discussions and films.
Sept 24-Oct 31: Steirischer Herbst, 8010 Graz, Sackstrasse 17/1 (010 43 316 73007).

PERUGIA FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC: New productions of Prokofiev's *Maria Magdalena* and Fauré's *Pénélope* as well as choral and chamber concerts in Umbria's capital.
Mid-Sept-Oct 2: Sagra Musicale Umbria, Piazza Italia 12, 06100 Perugia (010 39 75 21374).

WARSAW FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: Composers and performers meet to make music from all periods.
Sept 16-25: Central Office of Polish Composers Association, Rynek Starego Miasta 27, 00722 Warsaw (010 48 310807).

WROCLAW INTERNATIONAL ORATORIO AND CANTATA FESTIVAL: Oratorio, choral concerts and chamber music including performances by the Warsaw National Philharmonic, Scottish National Orchestra, and Amsterdam Baroque. Courses, symposiums and exhibitions.
Sept 1-10: Wroclawskie Cantate, Swierczewskiego 11, 50004 Wroclaw, Poland (010 48 442001).

OCTOBER

BARCELONA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL: Programmes of Catalan music albums with visiting orchestras and soloists.
Oct 1-31: Palacio de la Virreina Rambla 88, 08002 Barcelona, Spain (010 3493 30 17776).

BRNO MUSIC FESTIVAL: Concerts and chamber music by the cultural capital of Moravia centre on the Janáček Theatre.
End Sept-begin Oct: Cedo offer a week's tour departing September 29 at £348 including half-board, sightseeing and three tickets.

WEXFORD FESTIVAL: This year features Busoni's *Turandot* and Gajdarski's *Don Giovanni*.
Oct 21-Nov 1: Theatre Royal High Street, Wexford, Eire (010 353 53 22240). Sovereign offer four-night packages from £242, departing October 18, 24, 28 including B&B and tickets for four operas. Brompton charge from £350 for B&B and four operas departing October 21-25. JMB offer a wide range of hotel, travel and date options in packages including tickets, accommodation, tours, from £121-£299.

NOVEMBER

BYELORUSSIAN MUSICAL AUTUMN: Festival of village fêtes, celebrating harvest and the end of summer.
Nov 20-30: Intourist will arrange special tours.

DECEMBER

LITURGICA 88: JERUSALEM: Week of international and religious choral music at venues throughout Jerusalem.
Dec 27-31: Sherover Theatre, 20 Marcus Street, Jerusalem 9140 (010 57 657167).

LOGRONO NATIONAL ZARZUELA CYCLE: Spain's unique song-and-dance operetta has a new 21st-century production in the Municipal Auditorium at Logrono (010 34 941 243232).

TRAVEL CONTACTS:
Brompton Travel: 204 Walton Street, London SW3 (01-584 6143). Medium-range packages, specializing in opera. G.W. Hensberg: Karel, Ielp, Oxford (0575 5341). Specialists in tailor-made tours at reasonable prices. Heritage Travel: 21 Dorset Square, London NW1 (01-750 9841). Up-market operators, with expert guides and emphasis on cultural sightseeing. JMB Travel Consultants Ltd: Rushwick, Worcestershire (0905 425522). Most flexible operators, offering fit-in arrangements with your own holidays or business travel. Pegasus (Lincs) Holidays: 24a Ears Court Gardens, London SW5 (0273 54810). Limited choice, but excellent value. Also a grand summer opera tour: Prospect Art Tours Ltd: 10 Barley Mow Passage, London W4 (01-995 2163). Branching out into music festivals for the first time this year. Details available in April. Sovereign Holidays: West London Air Terminal, London SW7 (01-745 7879). Wide variety of packages and dates. Intourist: 282 Regent Street, London W1 (01-580 1221). Will advise on all special festival packages. Travel Agency: 6 Conduit Street, London W1 (01-493 0293). Tickets and travel for all festivals in Hungary.

THE TIMES COOK

DRINK

Chicken à la King Henri

Spain, Portugal, Italy and China all enjoy boiled chicken dishes.
Frances Bissell suggests variations of this French royal favourite

DIANA LEADBETTER

The French king, Henri IV, also known as Henry of Navarre, is immortalized in Paris in one of the city's most beautiful statues, "Le Vert Galant" on the point of the Ile de la Cité. It is my guess that he is remembered not for his heroic exploits and explorations but rather for his concern for the welfare of his subjects, in particular their stomachs. It was his aim to create enough wealth so that each family in the realm would be able to enjoy their chicken, their "poule au pot" every Sunday. One of the nicer kings, I've always thought.

It was a very good dish he endorsed too, but one that we seem not to cook very often in this country. Spain, Portugal, Italy, as well as France, all have dishes which feature boiled chicken, often as part of an impressive assortment of boiled meats including ham, beef, and sausages which are served with various spicy condiments.

Chicken is enjoying something of a revival here because we are now able to get chickens that taste like chickens if we insist on free range, naturally reared birds, and while we have seen a return to the grilled, casserole, roasted and pot-roasted chicken, it is a pity not to extend this further and try other cooking methods for this inexpensive, nutritious meat. I suppose cock-a-leekie soup is the nearest we get to boiled chicken, but why not cook and serve it as a main course?

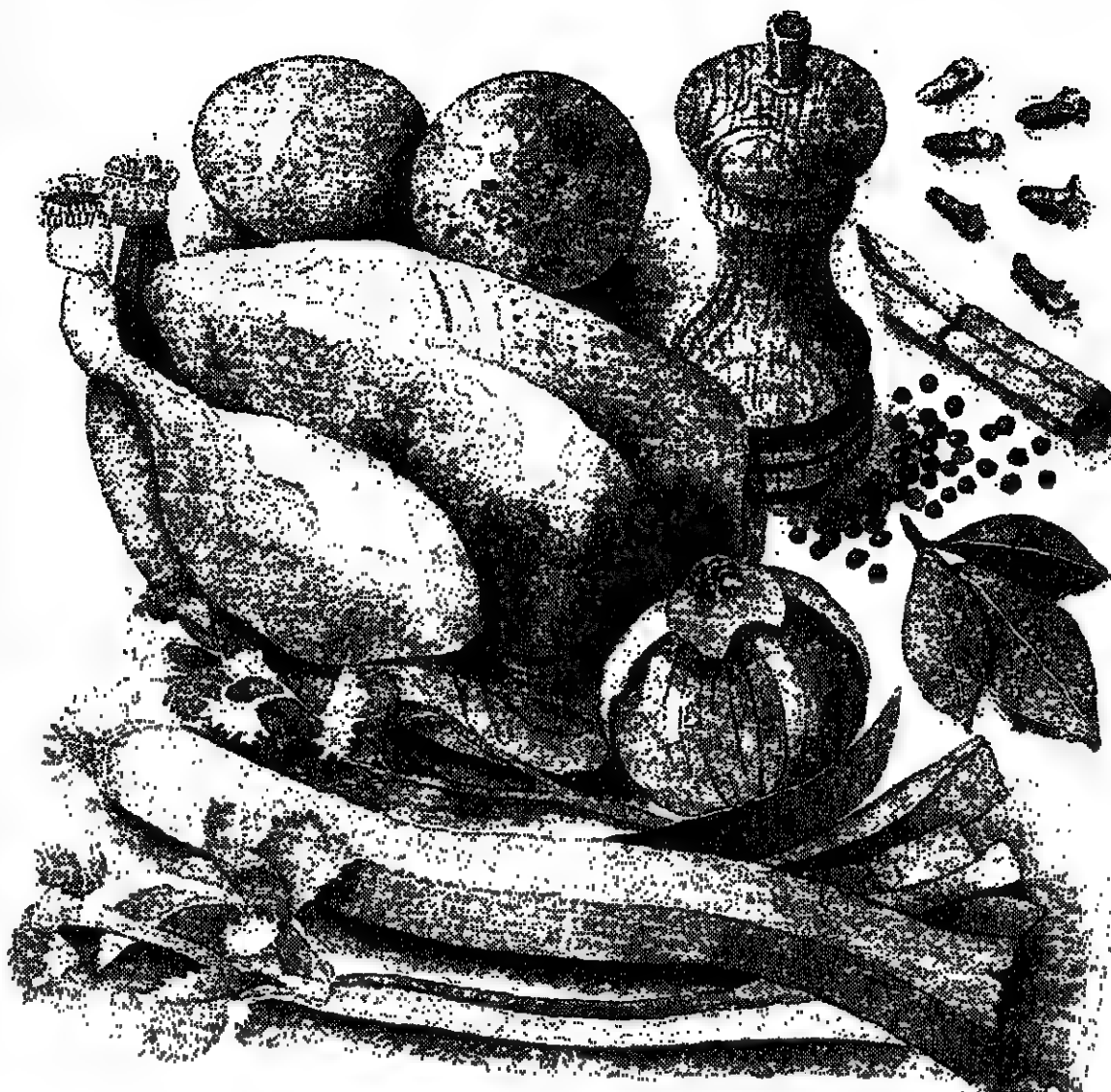
Of course, the secret is not to actually boil the bird fast and furiously. Poaching it is much nearer the mark, with the water surface scarcely moving, let alone bubbling. By the time the chicken is cooked, you will also have a delicious broth which could be used as a starter perhaps with some fresh vegetables added to it and the chicken served as a main course, cut into pieces accompanied by the vegetables that cooked in the same pot, and with a suitable spicy or flavoured sauce or relish.

An extra sumptuous version can be made by first cooking a boiling fowl with vegetables for two or three hours, until you have a marvelously rich broth, and poaching a roaster in the broth for an hour with some fresh vegetables.

Use different vegetables and sauces to vary the dish. Potatoes, leeks, bay leaves and prunes cooked with the chicken will produce a version of cock-a-leekie which I would serve with a mustardy caper sauce. For more of an Italian flavour, you might cook courgettes, beans and a quartered cabbage with the chicken. The accompanying sauce might be made by blending chopped parsley or basil with garlic, lemon, olive oil and pepper.

One of my very favourite versions comes from Hainan, the large tropical island off the South China coast, but is so popular a dish that it is found everywhere there are Chinese cooks.

The chicken is simply cooked in water and allowed to cool. The broth is served piping hot with fried onion, ginger and spring onions floating in it. A bowl of steaming rice accompanies the chicken which



is served with a remarkable condiment, fresh ginger pounded with salt. You eat a mouthful of rice, then the cool velvety tender chicken dipped in the ginger salt, followed by a spoonful of broth. A stunning combination of tastes, textures and temperatures.

Since this is still the season for root and blanched vegetables, I have given a recipe using these. You might prefer to save the broth for another day and another dish, so I have also included a suitable recipe for starters.

Smoked fish, whether it is salmon or mackerel, makes an excellent, appetising start to a meal. The recipe which follows would also make a good lunchtime or supper dish if you care to add one or two more ingredients or increase the quantity of smoked fish and potatoes.

While you can use any kind of cabbage, I prefer to use the cabbage called Chinese leaves or Chinese cabbage because it has a mild flavour but at the same time a good firm texture. Use any of the hot-smoked (that is, already cooked) fish. I like to use smoked trout or smoked mackerel in this recipe.

Smoked fish, potato and cabbage salad (serves 4)

1 lb/230 g Chinese cabbage leaves with the hard central stem removed
1 lb/230 g cooked diced potatoes
1 mild onion, peeled and thinly sliced
1 tablespoon capers or chopped gherkin
1 teaspoon mustard
4 to 5 tablespoons olive oil
2 teaspoons lemon juice
black pepper
sea salt
12 oz/340 g smoked fish fillets, skinned

Cut the cabbage leaves across into narrow strips and place them in a sieve or colander. Pour on boiling water to soften them. If you are using a tougher type of cabbage, you will probably need to drop the shreds into boiling water for two to three minutes. Drain the cabbage thoroughly and put it into a bowl together with the potatoes, onion and capers. Mix the next five ingredients together to make the dressing and pour it over the cabbage salad. Divide the salad among four plates and arrange the

fish fillets on top, perhaps dividing them up into four or five pieces to each plate. Garnish with herbs, olives, slices of lemon or lime, as you wish.

Boiled chicken with leeks and barley (serves 4-6)
3 to 3½ lb/1.35 to 1.60 kg free range chicken
4 bay leaves
1 small onion
6 cloves
3 inch/7.5 cm piece cinnamon
1 celery stalk
2 carrots
3 oz/85 g pearl barley
2 lbs/900 g leeks
1½ lbs/680 g potatoes
salt, pepper
2 tablespoons finely chopped parsley
1 teaspoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon horseradish
1 egg yolk

Wipe the chicken thoroughly inside and out. Remove any fat and cut off the wing pinions. Place the chicken in a large saucepan and

cover with water. Add the bay leaves, the onion stuck with cloves, the cinnamon, celery and carrots. Bring the pan to the boil over a medium heat. Remove any scum which forms on the surface. Cover with a lid and poach gently for half an hour.

Meanwhile, trim the leeks all to the same length, remove most of the roots and any coarse outer leaves. Split the leeks down the middle and rinse them thoroughly to get rid of any dirt. Peel the potatoes and leave them whole, if small, or cut into chunks.

Put the vegetables and pearl barley into the pot with the chicken. Bring back to the boil, and simmer for a further 45 minutes or so. Remove the chicken from the pan, joint it, and arrange the pieces on a serving platter, together with the leeks and potatoes. Discard the carrots, celery, onion, bay leaves and cinnamon.

Take out about ½ pint/200 mls of the broth, and put it in a small saucepan and the rest is now ready to be served as barley broth or kept for another meal. Bring the small amount of broth to the boil and add salt and pepper to taste and the parsley. Mix the lemon juice and horseradish with the egg yolk and stir this into the broth without letting it boil any more. Stir until it thickens slightly and serve it with the chicken and vegetables.

My final recipe is for an easy, inexpensive pudding that is always popular, even with those who claim not to like sweet things. In fact, it is not a rich, sweet dessert at all and so is suitable to serve at the end of a long and elaborate dinner party. It is equally at home at the end of a simple, weekend meal.

Rather than make the traditional tart or pie shape, I like to use just a single round of pastry and lay the apple slices on top. In this way less pastry is used, and the dish is less substantial. Conference pears, which are very good and inexpensive at the moment, make a nice alternative to apples. For ease of handling, I think it is better to make individual tarts.

Apple and almond tart (serves 4)
3 oz/85 g ground almonds
2½ oz/70 g caster sugar
3 oz/85 g melted unsalted butter
10 oz/280 g pastry
2 to 4 dessert apples, depending on size

Mix the ground almonds with 2 oz/60 g of the sugar, and stir in the melted butter until it forms a paste. Roll the pastry out to about ¼ inch/0.5 cm thick and cut into four circles, about 5 inches/12.5 cm diameter. Divide the almond paste into four and spread it in the centre of each pastry round. Peel and thinly slice the apples. Arrange them in wheel-spoke fashion, or as you like, on the pastry. Sprinkle with the remaining sugar to give a nicely caramelized effect when the tarts are baked. Slide the pastry circles on to a buttered, floured baking tray. Bake in the top half of a pre-heated oven, gas mark 5, 190°C/375°F for 15 to 20 minutes. Serve hot or warm.

Pick a bargain: beat the Budget

Our leading wine and spirit buyers will have made up their own minds by now as to which way the Chancellor is going to jump on Tuesday. But as I much enjoy the thrill of possibly cheating the Chancellor's coffers of a few pence, I shall be stocking up with some last minute purchases before the Budget.

Mr Lawson will soon let me know whether this is a wise move, but anyone who is thinking of beating the Budget by buying table wine in bulk ought to know that the Common Market pegged ratio between wine and beer duty is still roughly three to one. What this means is that the few pence per pint duty increase that our troubled beer trade could cope with, will probably only result, if the Chancellor chooses, in a maximum of around 7p on a bottle of wine. No great budget busters here then.

No such helpful EEC pegging alas exists with the last-minute fortified wine sector, dominated by sherry and port, or the astonishingly high taxed spirit division. Anyone therefore who drinks spirits such as whisky and gin regularly, or who appreciates a glass of sherry and port, should think seriously about laying in supplies before Tuesday.

Similarly anyone with a wedding or large celebration coming up who is hoping to serve champagne that, like all sparkling wines, qualifies for a higher rate of duty than straight table wines, may well want to buy early. A 10 pence increase on a bottle of sparkling wine, as was the case in 1985, may not sound much but it soon mounts up if you are buying bubbly in large quantities.

There are those, however, who feel that the Chancellor will continue to ignore the wine and spirit world in his 1988 revenue trawl. This camp argues that as he is flush with funds, additional revenue is not required, especially as the £2 billion he is already collecting from duty on spirits and the £3 million from beer gives him each respectively about one third and roughly a half of his total drinks revenue.

Will he they query, given the depressed liquor trade, want to upset this cosy alcoholic apple cart? More important still, states this liquid school of thought, the Chancellor will soon have to focus his attention on the 1992 EEC harmonization target date when indirect taxes throughout the community will have to be compatible.

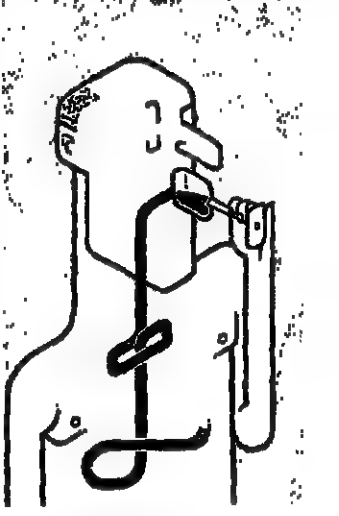
Given today's horrific UK duty and VAT levels consisting of £1.27 on a £2.25 litre bottle of table wine, £5.70 on a £7.47 bottle of whisky, gin or other spirit, £1.66 on a £3.69 bottle of sherry, and £2.14 on a

£5.99 bottle of port, some mammoth cuts will have to be made. What, therefore, is the point of raising duty now only to have to cut it savagely in four years' time?

The opposing camp of budget pessimists are convinced that with no increases in the duty on drinks since 1985, Mr Lawson will be keen now to catch up by increasing duty, at the very least, in line with inflation. Failing that this group feel that an increase in the rate of VAT is highly likely. They also feel that, with the increasing anti-alcohol debate and focus on health, a rise in duty on wine and spirits will be seen to be a good thing. It is also true that in a non-election year, duty increases are more likely to be levied.

Whatever the Chancellor's decision on Tuesday, my pre-budget purchases, as I rarely buy, are as follows:

ERIC DEANMONT



drink spirits, are likely to be in the fortified and sparkling wine categories.

A fine fortifying glass of sherry seems especially comforting in this cold weather and Hicks & Don, 4 The Market Place, Westbury, Wilt, have a handy pre-budget offer featuring among other wines the superb sherries from Antonio Barbadillo of Sanlúcar de Barrameda. My favourite is the bone dry, tangy, almost salty aperitif Manzanilla de Sanlúcar at £3.83, but those palates who prefer a richer, nuttier style of sherry should try the same producer's Amontillado, again a good buy at the same price.

Corney & Barrow, 12 Helmer Row, London EC1, are another good source of pre-budget bottles especially as the prices of their "spring offer" are, budget regardless, being held steady until March 31. Do try their non vintage Deamonte champagne, priced at £9.58 a bottle, whose pale gold colour and wonderful rich, fruity, full-bodied toasty style is delicious. Perhaps Mr Lawson will be celebrating with this on Tuesday evening?

Jane MacQuitty

EATING OUT

Road to a square meal

Jonathan Meades finds an inventive Midlands restaurant which excels in game before attending a marriage of Eastern cuisines in a much carpeted part of Marylebone

Devotees of the roadhouse, those exhilaratingly vulgar mega-pubs which belong to the era when motoring was an adventure rather than a utilitarian chore, will not, I fear, be much cheered by the Roadhouse Restaurant just outside Northampton.

It's not on an arterial road; it has no joke oak beams, no Californian-Georgian french windows; there's not a green pantile in sight; it does not recall the world of the thriller writer Peter Cheyney. There's nothing fast about the place, nor about its customers — as dourly respectable and solemn a bunch as you could find. Indeed, the idea that restaurants might have something to do with sensual pleasure was clearly not one that they entertained.

Given its premises, the Roadhouse could not be more inaptly named, though given the villages where the premises are to be found the title was groaningly inevitable. The place is called Road, and is on the edge of the belt of oolite limestone which sweeps from Dorset to Lincolnshire and which provides the stone we habitually call "Cotswold".

The restaurant is in a cottage built of such stone and is fairly rustically furnished. The bar is painted terracotta and the dining room is eau de Nilish with plates on the walls, copper pans, distressingly real looking beams, dried plants, county maps and so on; it's a bit like a tea-shoppe, it's in predictably English good taste.

The food, as is often the case in provincial restaurants, seems to belong to a culture altogether alien to that which is manifest in the dining room. The cooking is, in other words, interesting, inventive and accomplished. It is earthy in a refined sort of way, confidently unfussy and a

world away from the twee surrounds it is served in. It is also commendable for its eschewal of the spray-on exoticism that is often to be found in establishments in areas where good restaurants are scarce.

The menu does include the dreary mid-Channel cliché, deep fried Camembert, but is otherwise unconcerned with the fashions of the day before

yesterday. What the kitchen excels in is game. A fine and savoury pheasant pâté is served hot in skilfully made puff pastry and accompanied by an emphatic Cumberland sauce.

An entire woodcock is served with its beak and tiny brain — much like any other creature's brain, but smaller — and with its liver purged on a piece of fried bread; the bird

was properly hung and given a fittingly muscular sauce. Otherwise there are such gutsy things as leek and watercress soup, beef with pickled horseradish and beetroot, duck breast done rare with a confit of duck leg.

Vegetables are left in plates for the punter to help him or herself — a smaller quantity of better quality would be a closer match for the rest of the

grab. The bread here is good and so is the cheese — a mix of unpasteurised French and English is good form.

The wines include some usefully priced Rhône, for example an '83 St Joseph and a '79 Châteaufort du Pape from the Domaine Tour St Michel. Two will pay about £50 — a by no means unfair price for pretty good cooking which is to some extent reliant on local produce. This is a place that's worth going out of your way for.

The gulf between dining room and kitchen which is, mysteriously, so much a part of the Roadhouse is absolutely absent at Caravan Serai. Both decor and food shout the same message: Afghan. They shout pretty loudly too.

Whoever did out this congenial little restaurant in Marylebone had some good contacts in the carpet world. There is carpet in places where you would never believe carpet could get. The dado rail is carpet. The door frames are carpet. And the banquettes and the mirror surrounds and the chairs. There is even carpet on the floor. If you could cook the stuff they would do it.

The place is also cluttered with a china Afghan band of distinctly European provenance. Mogul-like miniatures, crudely anthropomorphic chess pieces, colour photographs of Afghan lakes. That's how the decor shouts, now the food.

It is delicious and geographically predictable, a marriage of north Indian and Persian that is not especially like either save in such things as tandoori dishes which are indistinguishable from Indian models. They are good but inevitably lack the curiosity value of a leg of lamb slow roasted on the bone with a mix of spices that perfume the joint like a boudoir. Then



At the end of last year, Jonathan Meades named Simply Nico as the 1987 winner of The Times Restaurant of the Year. Chef-proprietor Nico Ladenis is shown here receiving the trophy from Mr Charles Wilson, editor of The Times

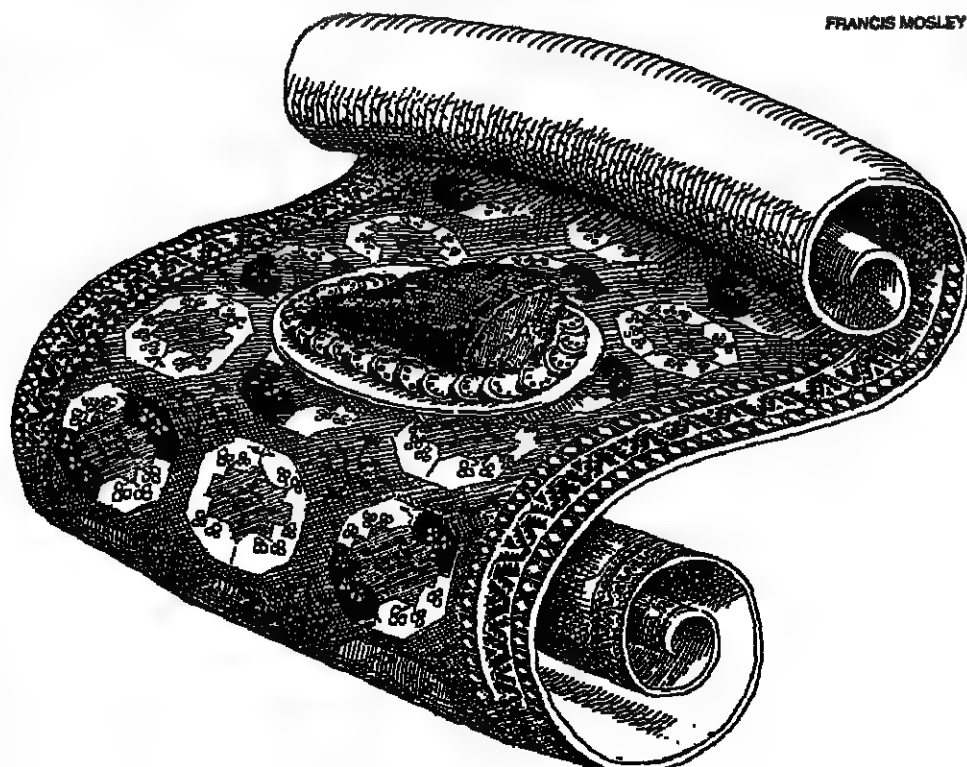
again, there is an aubergine dish which recalls the classic Turkish Imam Bayildi.

Among the starters are a number of pasta dishes, by no means light, but most interesting; one of them comprises dough stuffed with leeks and accompanied by ground meat and lentils. When you arrive you are served a pakora, slices of potato in batter, and in between courses you are served tangerine water ice.

The thing to drink is the yoghurt or buttermilk based stuff called *dogh*, a relation of the Arabian *doh*. After the meal, strangely delectating green tea is served with cakes of light batter. Two will pay £35.

The Roadhouse Restaurant: 16-18 High Street, Road, near Northampton (0604 863372), 12.30-1.45pm Mon to Fri, 7-9.15pm Mon to Sat. Closed Sat lunch, Sun.

Caravan Serai: 50 Paddington Street, London W1 (01 935 1208), 12-2.45pm Mon to Sat; 6-11pm Mon to Sun. Closed Sun lunch.



Both decor and food shout the same message: Afghan. They shout pretty loudly too

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OUT AND ABOUT

Spring specials

OUTINGS

LONGLEAT OPENINGS: The Safari Park reopens today for the season. New arrivals include a baby dromedary, a baby Dactrian (two-humped) camel, a rare white rhino, and a handful of lion cubs. The house is open as usual. Longleat, Wiltshire (098 53 551). Daily 10am-6pm. Safari Park admission: Adults £3.50, Child £2.50. House, adults £2.80, child £1.

PREMA IRISH FESTIVAL: A host of events this weekend catering for all tastes. Today, 11am-4pm, popular songs. Puppet-making workshops for seven-12 year olds, 11am-4pm, tickets £3. Puppet show for five-12 year olds, 5pm, adults £2, child £1.25. An Evening of Irish poetry, prose and music, 8pm, tickets £2. Tomorrow, Irish dancing workshops - 11am-2.30pm for under-11s, £1.50; 2pm-4pm for over-11s, £3. Irish dancing, 8pm, tickets £3.25. Prema, Uley, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Today and tomorrow. Tickets and further information (0453 860703).

WIND, SURF, AND WATER SPORTS: Everything you ever wanted to know. Organizations represented include the Royal Yachting Club, Sub Aqua Club, and National Canoeing Association. Supervised free sub aqua diving session, videos, seminars on basic advanced techniques, celebrity chat shows, fashion displays, Alexandra Palace, London N22. Further information: 01-365 2121. Today 10am-7pm, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adults £4, child £2.

YORKSHIRE HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE: For all rowing enthusiasts, 160 crews competing over a three-mile course on the River Ouse. First race at 12 noon. The following year the Maharishi Mehesh Yogi stepped in and bought the building itself, which now houses his University of Natural Law - a fact you will not be allowed to forget as you make the guided tour of the house.

CRYSTAL PALACE WALKABOUT: Crystal Palace Museum was officially opened last weekend. Here visitors can see a largely photographic exhibition. Tomorrow: two-hour guided tour of grounds - through the Palace ruins. Crystal Palace Museum, 84 Anerley Road, London SE19. Further information (01-778 2173). Museum open Sundays 2pm-5pm, admission free. Tomorrow's walkabout starts at 2.30pm, meet Crystal Palace Railway Station. Adult 80p, child 50p.

LONDON BIRD-WATCHING EVENTS: A visit led by Brian Mist to Wraybury gravel pits where birds include snipe, goldeneyes, woodpeckers, and rarities such as free-flying ring-necked parakeets. Meet Wraybury Station 10.30am (train from Waterloo). Bring packed lunch and binoculars. Further information Barrie Mee (01-871 3487). The second event is a bird walk in Kensal Cemetery led by Colin Cross. Meet at main cemetery entrance in Harrow Road - Ladbroke Grove end - at 9.30am. Further information from Mary Adcock (01-727 8820).

Judy Froshaug

The Maharishi Mehesh Yogi, smiling beautifully from every wall and chimneypiece, certainly makes a change from the ranks of pudding-faced aristocrats whose portraits adorn most stately homes. In every other way too, Mentmore Towers is a house wildly out of the ordinary.

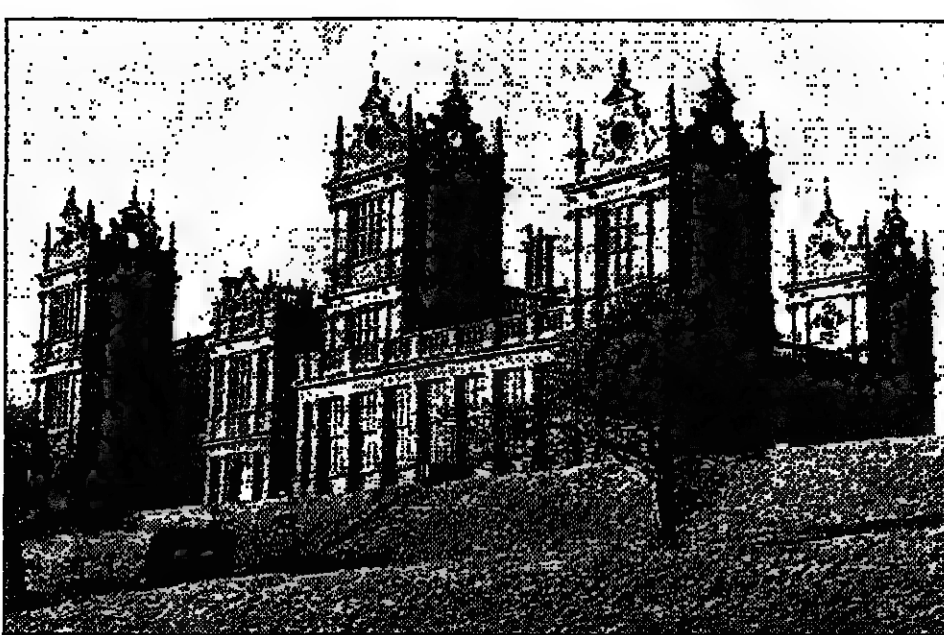
A stupendously grand Victorian mansion, it was built for Baron Meyer Amschel de Rothschild in conscious imitation of a famous Elizabethan "prodigy house", Wollaton Hall, outside Nottingham.

Sir Joseph Paxton, the great gardener and architect of the Crystal Palace, built it with the help of G.H. Stokes, his son-in-law. Paradoxically, their creation actually looks less Victorian - at least from a distance - than Wollaton; but it is hardly less spectacular, with its huge towers and extravagantly elaborated skyline.

The Baron was a keen sportsman and equally keen art collector, so Mentmore was a kind of gigantic hunting lodge cum art gallery. The prodigious Rothschild wealth - estimated at around £300 million, at a time when the Queen was worth perhaps £5 million - ensured that the house rapidly became an overflowing treasury of European art.

After the fifth Earl of Rosebery married the Baron's daughter Hannah, and thereby acquired Mentmore, the collections continued to expand, and were among the richest and most remarkable in private hands.

Then the 20th century caught up with the Roseberys, in the form of crippling death duties: the family was finally left with no choice but to sell up. In the "sale of the century" in May 1977, virtually the entire contents of the house were auctioned off, raising some £6½ million. The following year the Maharishi Mehesh Yogi stepped in and bought the building itself, which now houses his University of Natural Law - a fact you will not be allowed to forget as you make the guided tour of the house.



Mentmore Towers: visitors included Napoleon III, Czar Nicholas II and Winston Churchill

The magical, mystical tour

Nigel Andrew visits Mentmore Towers, once a treasury of European art and home of Baron Rothschild, and now owned by the transcendental meditation organization

Mentmore, then, is a shell - but what a shell! It is built around a huge Italianate hall, lit not only by a skylight 40 feet up, but from all sides through enormous plate-glass doors. These look astonishingly stark and modern, and it is said that in their time they were the largest single sheets of glass in existence. Paxton, ever the innovator, also fitted the house with a complete system of "central heating" and "air conditioning", remarkable for the day.

Around the hall - which alone cost £30,000 to build - runs a high gallery of green Siberian marble and alabaster, with 12 suites of rooms leading off it. These were used in their day by such visitors as

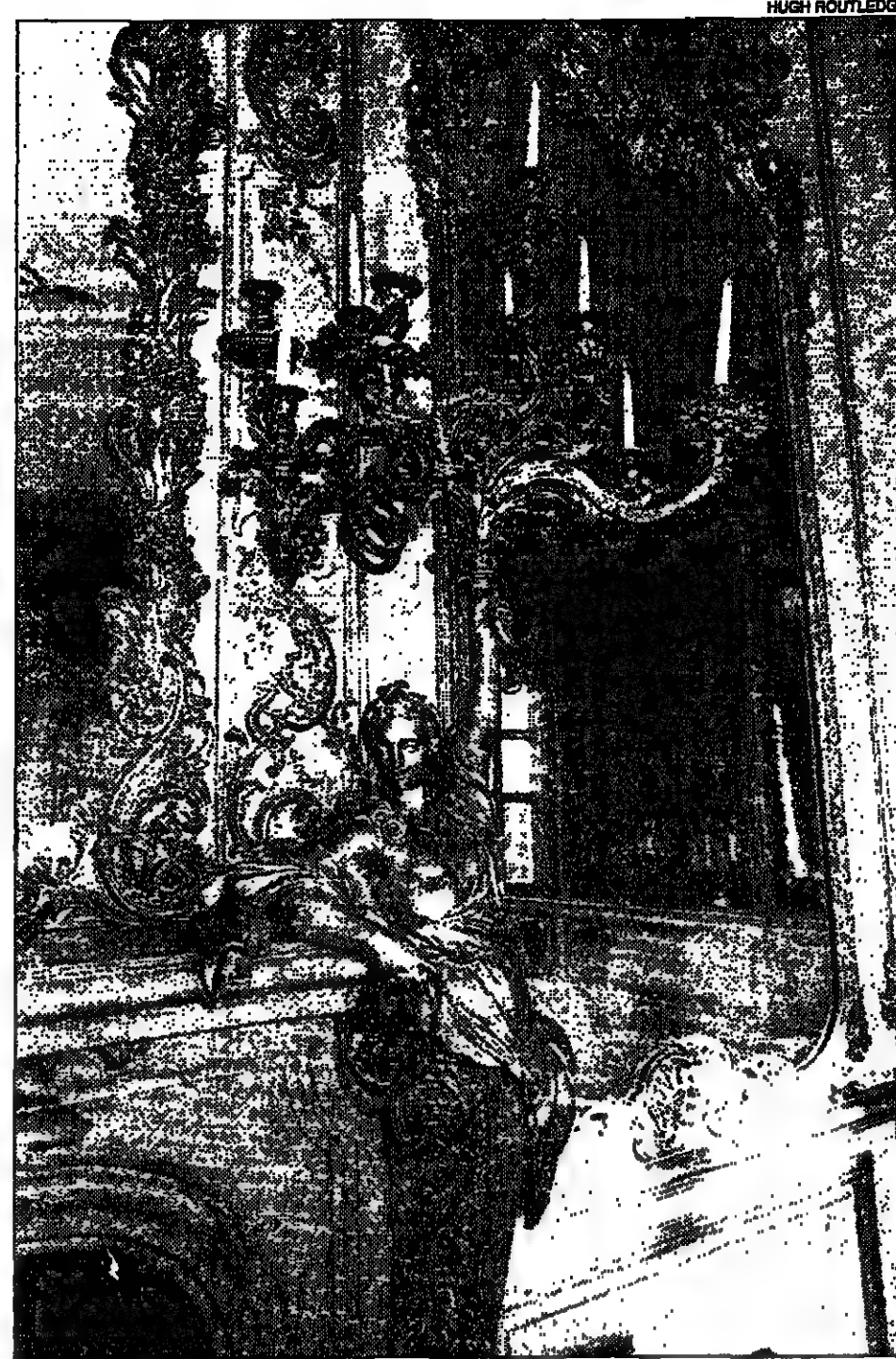
Napoleon III, Czar Nicholas II and Winston Churchill. Set into the gallery floor every few yards are metal foot-stools with which a servant could be summoned at any time. This is luxury you can afford - if you happen to be a Rothschild, or to have married one.

The downstairs rooms, stripped of their contents though they are, still offer the most sumptuous delights to the eye. The Baron did not stop at buying pictures and furniture and objects d'art; he bought whole walls and ceilings, and these, for the most part, remain in place. The astonishing dining room, for example, is lined with 16th century Genoese velvet - still wonderfully fresh - mirrors

with ornate gilt frames and School of Van Leu paintings in fancy roundels. All this from the Hôtel de Villars in Paris.

There is also a superb marble chimneypiece - topped by the inevitable Maharishi - but these are two a penny at Mentmore. The really remarkable chimney-piece is in the great hall - a colossal affair in black and white marbles, which came from the house of Rubens at Antwerp. The Belgian government has in the past expressed an interest in getting this one back where it belongs.

What Mentmore was like in its heyday we may only imagine, helped by some old photographs - hyper-luxury,



Reflections of yesterday: a richly ornate corner of a marble fireplace in the great dining room

ultimate clutter, the mellow aroma of really huge money. That great hoard of art treasures was probably better dispersed: it was only part of the "English heritage" by some stretching of the term. But one cannot help wondering what on earth the

DETAILS

Mentmore Towers, near Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, is open on Sundays and Bank Holidays, 1.45-4pm. Tel: 0296 561881. Tees are served in the stable block, and lunch may be had at The Stag in Mentmore

GARDENING

Pull and call of the wild

Francesca Greenoak meets a couple who quit the rat race and went back to nature

It takes imagination now to see Derek and Judy Tolman in business suits, but not long ago they were the model young professionals; she lecturing in law at Durham University and he an investment analyst with a firm of stockbrokers.

It has taken three years of hard labour to transform themselves into weather-beaten plant raisers and the hub of their 30 acres in south Buckinghamshire into a little nursery.

If its name, Plants from a Country Garden, sounds a little too winsome, it is at least

known garden around their cottage which had been neglected for several years. (It is now in the National Garden Scheme; open day June 28).

It was because they found growing plants so much more satisfying than their daily jobs that they decided to make the gamble of buying some land locally and putting all their efforts into making their own specialist nursery.

One of the services they offer is wild flower plants, since many people who desire these native flowers in their garden have difficulty getting them started from seed. Foxgloves, cowslips, primroses, self-heal, sweet cicely and cuckoo flower and other plants of meadow and woodland are potted up ready to replant.

As well as the double cuckoo

flower, they have a darker dwarf, double form, the white foxglove and a non-active atlantic poppy that self-seeds giving a form with creamy variegation which they named Rusheeds Variety after the neighbouring woods.

The Tolmans root their cuttings without heat in a cold frame in the greenhouse in pots of sharp sand. Things that they especially recommend for April cuttings are rosemary, lavenders and santolinas.

Plants from a Country Garden is at The Thatched Cottage, Duck Lane, Ludgershall, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP18 9NZ.

● GARDENS TO VISIT: a regular weekly listing will start on Friday in The Times information service.

WEEKEND TIPS

- Cut back old shoots of hardy fuchsias growing outdoors.
- Sow early carrots under cloches when weather is mild.
- Examine the roots of pot plants and replant in a larger pot if the roots are congested.
- Pot on fuchsia and geranium cuttings taken last autumn.
- Continue to sow hardy annuals thinly in seed trays in cold frame or greenhouse.

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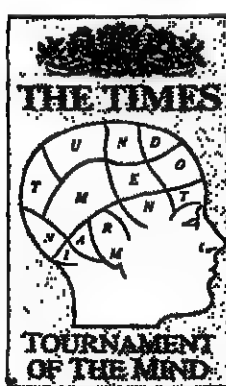
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Tournament of the Mind

ROUND SEVENTEEN - QUESTIONS

Try all the questions - remember it's the top scores that count



- With three more rounds to go, a few hints from Mensa about how to answer their questions:
- The general knowledge questions are straightforward and can be checked from reference books such as Collins English Dictionary (also used for verbal questions), Macmillan's Encyclopedia or Pear's. We are not looking for obscure answers.
- In maths questions, the only symbols used are plus, minus, divide and multiply, and the answer is calculated as if it were worked out on a calculator. Thus if we have $2 \times 3 - 4 \div 5$ equals 10, we would expect to get 2 multiplied by 3 gives us 6, 6 minus 4 gives us 2, 2 multiplied by 5 gives us 10.
- In puzzles which involve the collection of letters of a word we do not expect contestants to collect more than one of each letter. To us NEWS does not give the word NEWS. Diagonal or diagonally means oblique or slanting, as defined in Collins, and we always move from square to touching square.
- In number series if we intend to write ten, twenty and thirty we would print 10 20 30. Thus if we give you the following series: 1 2 3, we would expect the answer 4, and not any calculations based on one hundred and twenty three.
- Please check carefully before telephoning or writing.

1 LOGIC - Score 18

Each row, column and diagonal line containing five numbers adds up to 100. You must fill in the missing numbers to discover the value of the question mark.

		25	3	24
?			23	6
25	23		17	15
12		16	16	39
	12	15		16

2 VERBAL - Score 12

Can you change the word FLEET to the word SHIPS in the least number of moves? You must change one letter at a time and create an English word at each change. How many moves did you make and what were the words you used?

NB All words are to be found in the Collins English Dictionary

3 MATHS - Score 17

Can you work out the logic behind this series and tell us what the numbers represent? Here are the numbers:

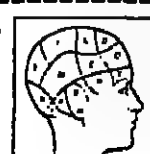
16 224 6,272 25,088 501,760

4 MISCELLANEOUS - Score 16

Your bath has two taps. The first tap will fill the bath in 1 hour, 40 minutes as long as the plug is in. The other tap would take 3 hours 32 minutes to accomplish the same function. If the plug is out and the taps are off the bath will empty in 2 hours 23 minutes. Assuming both taps are on and the plug is out, how long will it take to fill the bath to the nearest second?

5 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE - Score 4, 4, 3, 4, 5

- 1 Which music hall comedian was nicknamed "the prime minister of mirth"?
- 2 Which fashion designer created the H-line?
- 3 What is the study of fishes called?
- 4 In which country was the early form of man known as zinjanthropus discovered?
- 5 In which country did the debris from Skylab fall?



ROUND 17 - ANSWERS

Cut out your answers and keep this coupon until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons printed in The Times

PUZZLES Answer 1
Answer 2
Answer 3 Answer 4
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
Answer 1 Answer 2
Answer 3
Answer 4
Answer 5
NAME

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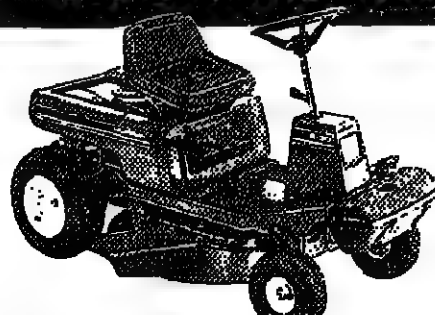


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THE ARTS

Pleasant laughter

TELEVISION

On BBC2 last night entertainers young and old were sending themselves up. In *Has Footlights - Will Travel*, a gentle, moving portrait of the last three professional Yiddish actors in Britain, the sending up was part of a swansong. The endearing trio are determined to perform for as long as they have an audience but they know only too well that they are too old to play scenes from Yiddish romantic comedies without tongues in cheek to accompany the increasingly ineffective tricks of theatrical rejuvenation.

In *French And Saunders* the sending up was more of a *Swan Lake* as Dawn and Jennifer, brazenly bulging in full ballerina gear, hilariously parodied dancers' obsessive lifestyle before an improbable defiance of gravity surrounded by graceful pirouetting examples of the real thing.

Jokes about large women posing as ballerinas are hardly new. Normally they are on the level of cheap condescending derision. *French And Saunders* were able both to transcend such facile mockery and make the joke funnier. They were laughably large for ballet but both possessed a plump grace and beauty which they cleverly emphasized. They also played their role straight-faced as though they were unaware, and because they were both stars and authors, not anonymous Bessie Branters wheeled on to raise a chuckle, you laughed with them not at them. And, just in case their solidarity with fat as a feminist issue was in doubt, they did a sketch as grossly belittled, beer-swilling, women-ogling fat men in which all their grace and beauty was completely hidden.

French and Saunders self-referential playing with genres reflects the increasing influence of the medium they work in. The Yiddish theatre's self-reference, alas, indicates an apparently terminal decline, but it was heartening to see some young faces among the old members of the audience joined in nostalgic communion with the actors. It is to be hoped that some of the former will be tempted onto the stage.

Andrew Hislop

The company directors

Once the actor-manager seemed a doomed species. This week both Anthony Quayle and Kenneth Branagh led their separate companies on tour. Sheridan Morley talks to the two men



Deal roles: Kenneth Branagh and Sir Anthony Quayle have given up lucrative work to tour in the provinces

This week, the Renaissance Theatre Company has opened at the Birmingham Rep with Judi Dench's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, while the Compass Theatre Company is at the Buxton Opera House in *The Government Inspector*. Both are at the start of long regional tours with classical plays; both are run by actors who direct from time to time; both have been created with largely private sponsorship, well away from the bastions of the National and the RSC; both reflect a belief in extensive regional touring, and in the return of the actor to a position of authority backstage as well as onstage. Separated by nothing more than a 50-year age gap, Sir Anthony Quayle (founding father of the modern RSC) and Kenneth Branagh (who created Renaissance two years ago) share a passionate faith in actor-management.

QUAYLE: It's not just the desire to get power back into the hands of the actors, though that may well be a part of it, in my case the desire was to get back to much smaller companies. I know how institutions get bigger by the year: I was in at the start of Stratford. But in the end the directors get so remote that they cease to be any part of a family, and in my old age I really do want to be a part once again of something you can hold in your hand and relate to.

BRANAGH: I've kept Renaissance to a total of 15 actors and maybe another half-dozen people backstage so that we too stay manageable. That means without endless committee meetings there can be open company gatherings, everyone knows how the accounts are looking, and we stay friendly and small.

QUAYLE: I'm filled with admiration for men like Peter Hall at the National and Terry Hands at the RSC, but there's no doubt they are now presiding over huge, unwieldy beasts spending a lot of money.

BRANAGH: I know actors often feel lost among bureaucracies; in my time at the RSC we often felt uncertain who precisely was in charge.

MORLEY: But what now makes you both give up what could be comparatively lucrative careers around London television and radio and film studios to spend effectively the next year of your lives on the road in productions for which inevitably you bear a lot of the backstage responsibilities?

QUAYLE: Firstly I think a real love of touring: the audiences seem to be better out there, perhaps because they are so starved of live theatre. Also we seem to be living in a very socially divisive time, and there is a lot to be said for making from

Middlesbrough to Belfast feel that they belong to the same nation.

BRANAGH: I was also very keen to give more actors a chance to direct, so we've got Judi Dench, then Geraldine McEwan and finally Derek Jacobi in that capacity.

MORLEY: Is it better to have your money, apart from the box-office income, coming from private sponsorship sources rather than the Arts Council?

QUAYLE: We do in fact have some support from the Council, but either way the money is desperately unreliable; neither private companies nor public bodies seem able to make up their minds more than a year or so in advance, so there's no real chance to plan for the future.

BRANAGH: As far as we're concerned, the Arts Council reckon we

have still to win our spurs, and that means getting funding from each of the towns we visit as well as initial money from the City and elsewhere. But the money is always a nightmare: even if we sell out every performance for the whole of our initial three months in Birmingham, and we just might, we shall still leave with a deficit of £100,000 and that's with the whole cast on minimum Equity wages. Theatre is extremely expensive. These tours are really subsidized by actors as well as fund-raisers.

QUAYLE: So why do we do it? Because there has to be more to an actor's career than making a good or a comfortable living. I still tour on the Equity minimum, and I don't charge anything for running Compass. If I want six months on the road with them, I buy that time by

doing television voiceovers or whatever before I start rehearsing.

BRANAGH: There's now an appetite among actors to be involved in every aspect of the shows they do: at Stratford in my time there we always felt at the mercy of a series of memos or production deadlines. There was no family feeling, nobody seemed to have any say in working conditions; this is not simply a power struggle, nor is it about actors' egos. Indeed the more backstage work I have to do at Renaissance, the more I admire the people who had to do it on a vastly larger scale at Stratford. But there is still a lot to be said for keeping it small and flexible.

MORLEY: Both of you play leading roles in all the productions you tour;

is there a danger that performances suffer simply because of all the administration involved?

BRANAGH: You do have to be very careful not to spend whole weekends in budget meetings and then arrive exhausted for a Monday morning rehearsal, but somehow exhilaration carries you through.

QUAYLE: You'll be a much better Benedick after you've sorted out all the posters and the touring dates.

BRANAGH: Also I think it does help to deal with other actors if you are one yourself.

QUAYLE: It's like being a battalion commander: you go into fire with them every night, and they respect you more for that. I only came back into management at this late stage of my life because I realized there were towns that just never got to see the National or the RSC or any classical acting; when you've played *Lear* in Belfast to audiences who know a lot about violent death inside the family, you realize there is a world away from London and Stratford. We can still tour even a big show like *The Government Inspector* for about half what it would cost the RSC or the National to do it on the road. Theaters vary hugely, of course: where there has been good local house management, the audiences still tend to come. In other cities the theatre has been allowed to fall apart and the audience has gone too. It's very hard to win them back in a week.

BRANAGH: I think perhaps it helps to have a vaguely familiar face from the TV, though when I go around the City in search of funding I'm still usually introduced as Kevin Burton. But you smell in the air a desire for the actors to take up the reins again: when you have someone like Judi Dench directing, instead of giving academic lectures on the text, she passes down lessons that were given by William Poel to Edith Evans; Edith told George Rylands, he told Peter Hall who told Trevor Nunn who told Judi. That's a direct line of experience which seems to me very important: direct working experience of how to handle the verse.

QUAYLE: In America actors only know how to work towards commercial success: a house in California is reckoned to be the height of achievement. We were in some danger of going the same way over here, but I think there is now a tremendous determination to break down the old giants and to strike out for individual achievement, which may well not be financial at all. If I do have any kind of theatrical tour to hand on to anyone, I think I'd like to hand it on to Ken.

Blazing songs of the earth

CONCERT

CBSO/Rattle Birmingham Town Hall

Now that the "Rattle *Tristan*" has made its appearance in a novel, the pressures on Simon Rattle to become an outstanding Wagner conductor must be growing almost irresistible. Last night he began his succumbing with a majestic performance of the closing scene from *Die Walküre*, splicing in the "Ride of the Valkyries" at the start; the join came as a bit of a jolt but at least the arrangement made for a framed symphonic episode, less a bleeding chunk than a blazing song of the earth.

If the blaze came from the orchestra, with trumpets, trombones, horns and percussion all cracking away from the high back of the platform, the symphonic breadth was Rattle's. The "Ride" and much of the ensuing music he conducted slightly slowly, seeming always to be holding the orchestra back rather than egging them on: the gains in power and fullness of tone were of course immense. And from the strings there was an unusually detailed exposition of Wagner's great variety of textures, including some pianissimos of an exceedingly rare fineness (these had been a useful feature too, along with a slicing orchestral unanimity, in the performance of Haydn's Symphony No 70 at the start of the concert).

The Wotan was Willard White, whose performance, like Rattle's, made one look forward keenly to the real thing. Never embarrassed by the slow tempos, he produced steady, sustained lines of a dark-toned nobility and commanding authority: his reference to himself as "Ich, der Gott" was the simple truth. Phyllis Cavanagh's warm pleading (a little strained in the lowest register) was answered with generous concern, but from a height that White's performance justified.

There is a repeat of the Wagner next Wednesday, but in a different programme, without the cool, unbending and curiously Bachian view of the Schumann Piano Concerto that Peter Donohoe supplied last night.

Paul Griffiths

Double revival

OPERA

Cav and Pag Coliseum

"Every day we work for improvement," sings Tonio, in the prologue to *Pagliacci*, directly to the audience instead of to the stage children around him, and that in itself is one of several improvements in this first revival of *Cav and Pag* since the production was new 18 months ago. Another is the acquisition of Michael Lloyd as conductor, who breathes with the singers.

A new cast for *Pagliacci* includes Malcolm Donnelly as the malin Tonio, strong on voice and furtive of character; and Alan Woodrow's somewhat peevish Canio, singing (in this version) "On With The Make-Up" as if it were still in the day's work. Angela Feeley is a mannered Nedda, bright of tone but getting too few words across, though in her duet with Alan Opie's fresh-voiced Silvio a semblance of more passionate feeling began to emerge.

Their play-acting is no longer watched by the bearded Mamma Lucia and Santuzza from *Cavalleria rusticana* as it was before. In this Jan Judge production, which plays both operas in the same Easter week-end as well as the same village, the women go to and from Vespers before the play starts, then re-appear only at the end for Santuzza to cradle the dying Nedda, the strolling players having arrived to stay at Mamma Lucia's taverna in the first opera.

Here the cast retained Jane Eaglen as the plain and bespectacled Santuzza, who voiced clear tone and a fine fervour in her betrayal. Arthur Davies as Turiddu sang with just the right degree of self-pity at being caught out. But it is not just the colliery pit-head in the background that denies both operas the southern warmth that should inflame the music.

Noel Goodwin

Lot's wife turns into sculpture

GALLERY

Chaim Stephenson Sternberg Centre

For some time now the Sternberg Centre for Judaism has been doing sterling work for a succession of Jewish artists, who have had the chance to show in the elegant ground floor galleries of its Georgian manor house home in Finchley, north London.



Telling: mother and child

No doubt not so many of the general public as could be wished have known about its activities, since in the nature of things it has been preaching mainly to the converted. But every now and then there comes up an exhibition of wider than merely parochial interest: for instance, the current show of sculpture by Chaim Stephenson, which is on there until March 29.

Stephenson was born in Liverpool, and now lives again in England, but he spent a number of formative post-

war years living on a kibbutz, teaching himself all that he needed to know about the techniques of sculpture.

Looking at some of the work on show, it might appear that he had been strongly influenced by Giacometti and, nearer home, by someone like George Elhrich, but he probably arrived at these particular stylistic solutions all by himself, having never seen any Giacometti when he began and sadly disclaiming any kind of artistic knowledge and training when he was a child in Liverpool.

He uses with great skill a number of different materials, including bronze, wood and terracotta. His wood carvings are particularly telling, but he has real talent as a modeller, and some of the little terracotta figures are specially desirable.

But he would probably agree that the centre of his work consists of the metal sculptures on biblical themes like "Jacob's Dream", "Moses at the Battle of Amalek" and "Hagar and Ishmael". He is also, when he wants to be, a vivid animal sculptor, as in the (presumably sacrificial) "Goat" and the very heroic-looking "Eagle" about to strike.

He is also able to carry off unlikely, and on the face of it unappealing combinations of material, as in his "Lot's Wife" in resin over metal, where the white encrustations immediately make sense when you realize that she is in the process of turning into salt.

John Russell Taylor



Sparring partners: Vanessa Redgrave and Timothy Dalton as Nora and Con Melody in O'Neill's *A Touch of the Poet*

THEATRE

A Touch of the Poet Comedy Theatre

After its preliminary run on the open stage of the Young Vic, where Irving Wardle's review drew attention to the production's strengths, Eugene O'Neill's play has arrived at this proscenium theatre. The timbered interior of the Irish tavern in suburban Boston, covey by the angles of its beams, has grown an upper chamber to overhang the action. Up there the symbolically forenamed Con Melody keeps his proof of former glory, the major's uniform he wore at the Battle of Talavera, where his bravery was publicly commended by the Duke of Wellington himself.

The year is 1828, and Andrew Jackson, man of the people, is running for president against the candidate of the Yankee gentry; in front of this wide struggle, where the arena is the American nation, O'Neill sets the family clash between the intolerably positing Con and his practical, ambitious daughter, Sara.

Living on credit but nonetheless as befits a gentleman, slave-driving his wife and

daughter, and lording it over the Irish scum on whose money his tavern depends, Con is one of O'Neill's gallery of desperate dreamers, to whom (in a rare expression of author's charity) he contrives to permit a sort of redemption.

Timothy Dalton's strong physical presence gives the character its seedy charm and posur's smile, the explosions of fury and whimpering pleas for forgiveness, but until he finds, and movingly responds to, his come-uppance in the last act it is a curiously uninvolved performance.

The play is long, and O'Neill seldom reveals a character trait without doing so again soon afterwards in rather too similar a way, since Con's every appearance is designed to make the same

points about his play-acting and snobbery, a certain impatience with author and character develops.

The crisis is precipitated by the additional presence upstairs, on his sickbed, of a poetic sprig of a local Yankee family. Sara has rescued this young man, whom we never see, from a cabin beside a lake from which he went, as his fond mother dryly remarked, "to seek self-emancipation at the breast of nature". By loving him Sara seeks her own emancipation, although her eventual success is ambiguous.

Con Melody shoots his thoroughbred mare, symbol of his pretensions, and recites Byron in an Irish brogue before joining his true companions in the bar. But Sara's eventual happiness has more

than a touch of author's irony to it. This scene, however, with her mother, is wonderfully played by Rudi Davies, fully confirming her growing reputation as an excellent young actress. Flinging contempt at her father or melting into loving laughter in her scene with Vanessa Redgrave, she also possesses a still alertness that keeps you watching her.

Vanessa Redgrave's Nora, the loving doormat of the household, is a study of the total devotion O'Neill likes to think was his feminine ideal, utterly absorbed in the wellbeing of her dreadful spouse and showing us her pathetic joy when he condescends to kiss her.

Into this seething menage comes the extraordinary character of the sick poet's eccentric mother (Amanda Boxer), a most unexpected O'Neill creation - poised and vague, drifting between insincerity and warning. She belongs to a different culture but she seems also to belong in a different play, and though I do not see how David Thacker's production here, nor the performance, could be significantly altered, the scene has a surreal strangeness, like a *marion glacé* intruding upon an Irish stew.

Jeremy Kingston

Teenage torment

Child's Play New End Theatre

Opening the Bristol Express Company's new writers' season, this piece by Jonathan Wolfman is a real find.

Within the first few minutes it is clear that Mr Wolfman knows his business, and (like such Northern compatriots as Willy Russell and Debbie Horsfield) he comes straight to the point in this painfully funny investigation of growing pains among the small fry of Merseyside in the 1960s. It takes three girls and three boys from the primary school to the brink of maturity; and, in the sense that everybody blunders through the same sexual obstacle course, you can see it all coming from the first stirrings of curiosity and tongue-tied meetings at the bus stop to the joys of masturbation and the mysteries of the youth-club dance floor.

What counts, of course, is how people cope individually; and the separate temperaments of this little bunch are already implicit in their playground war games and skipping routines. On each side there is a dreamy romantic, a sexual specialist, and a self-condemned outsider. But that is far too diagrammatic description for the personalities that gradually flower in the performances of Angela Clarke, Rob Jarvis, Phil Atkinson and the rest of Adrian Bean's company, who excel in showing how comically immature mannerisms harden into adult characteristics.

What they get up to looks like child's play, but in fact Mr Wolfman is developing a cunningly laid plot under the standard episodes of adolescence. As they thrill and cringe under the explosions of puberty, each gaining temporary status when they can pass on forbidden knowledge to the others, attachments are being formed, in every case with the wrong partner. Thus, as in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the lovers resort to a wood near Liverpool for an all-night picnic where the misalliances are sorted out, with the substitution of referees for Puck's magic flower. Containing hardly a reference to anything outside its own tiny society, *Child's Play* is far from being a realistic piece; but it certainly comes over as a chunk of real life.

Irving Wardle

Downfall of the dreamer

than a touch of author's irony to it. This scene, however, with her mother, is wonderfully played by Rudi Davies, fully confirming her growing reputation as an excellent young actress. Flinging contempt at her father or melting into loving laughter in her scene with Vanessa Redgrave, she also possesses a still alertness that keeps you watching her.

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Jeremy Kingston

LONDON CITY BALLET

Part 1 - High The Princess of Wales

22-26 March 1988

23 March 1988

23 March 1988

23 March 1988

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23 March 1988

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Romeo and Juliet Nutcracker Suite

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Giacosa Variations

Sponsored by The Hawley Group

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Sadder Wells Theatre

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REVIEW

Back to the battleground

The Making of Homeric Verse: the collected papers of Milman Parry, ed. Adam Parry. Oxford paperback 1987, £12.95

Small schoolpersons are usually belted fairly hard if they suggest that a poet has to use a word because it is the only one that scans, but the Greek satirist Lucian was of much the same opinion.

He lists the epithets typically applied to Zeus — "god of friends, of strangers, of the hearth, of oaths, of the lightning-flash, cloud-gatherer, loud-thunderer" — and continues "and whatever else crack-brained poets call him, especially when they are having trouble with the metre". Even those who have read Homer only in translation will recognize the cruel jibe: when was Odysseus not "mouch-enduring", Achilles "swift-footed" and Hector "of the flashing helmet"? Little did Lucian know...

In 1924 the young American scholar Milman Parry began his work in Paris, to be continued later in Harvard, in which he was to demonstrate that those repetitions proved that Homer was working at the end of a tradition of orally improvised hexameter poetry stretching back hundreds of years.

In particular, he showed that those famous epithets ("swift-footed Achilles" etc) occurred when they did because of the demands of the metre, not of the sense. Given this metrical gap in the line, and this person or thing to be described, the poet had one epithet and one epithet only which he could use. But why?

Anyone who has ever tried composing classical hexameters will know the answer. I suppose the average hexameter takes about 15 minutes of concentrated pencil-sucking and *Fensterauschauung* to produce, until you find you have forgotten the caesura. The answer, then, is "need". It

was only possible to improvise oral poetry live in such a complex metre if the tradition gave the poet a wide range of "pre-packaged" phrases (called "formulas"), clauses, lines and scenes which he could mould and adapt into a story. And, by extension, Parry argues that all Homeric poetry must, at heart, be formulaic.

But Parry was not content with theory. Intrepidly wielding early tape-recorders in one hand and bottles of raki in the other, he took to the field and recorded the epics of living Yugoslav oral poets in an effort to demonstrate such a tradition at work. This work is especially interesting in showing how even the same poet alters the same poem from telling to telling.

I can particularly recommend the variation in the sequence in which the hero Marko, leaving his tower for distant lands, warns how the villainous Nina will capture his tower, steal his treasure and wife and tread on his mother. Anyway, the Yugoslav *guslari* were grateful for their fame, and Milovan Vojicic duly composed an epic in honour of Parry, describing how he flew from America like a grey falcon ("that was not a grey falcon, it was Professor Milman Parry the glorious!") and eventually came to rest at the Hotel Wilson.

When the work was published, German "analytical" scholars were aghast. Juggling about 300 Homers between them, they now found that Homer could be one (the poet) and many (the tradition) and all that nodding, once clear proof of multiple authorship, was now to be assigned to the conditions of oral improvisation. Where had all their Homers gone?

The *literati* were equally dumfounded. Parry's work turned Homer into an automaton. Where was the poetry,



Death on the prairie: Ralph Morrison, a hunter, was killed and scalped by Cheyennes near Fort Dodge, Kansas, on December 7, 1868. Photographed within an hour of his death by William Soule,

one of a fascinating collection of pictures by intrepid cameramen, from The North American Indians in Early Photographs, by Paula Richardson Fleming & Judith Laskey (Phaidon, £12.95)

where the inspiration, if Homer had no choice over the language he could use, but all was controlled by "the tradition"? They were all the angrier when Parry claimed that the epithets, being traditional, had no particular force or meaning at all. "Rosy-fingered dawn" was a meaningless cliché, he argued, to Homer's audience.

It was an important moment for lovers of Homer in 1971 when Oxford first published the complete works of

Parry (including his fascinating Yugoslav notes). The reason for re-publication now, and in bargain paperback too, lies in the Press.

Parry's work radically altered our whole conception of Homer, and while the poet has come out of the re-examination even more glorious than before, the debate over Parry's work, in particular his hard line over the extent to which Homer could choose his diction, has never ended. Now Oxford has published

Naming Achilles by the young American David Shive, in which Shive claims that Parry's arguments are completely misguided. Hence the need to re-publish Parry.

Oxford is to be congratulated on this double coup. Homerists can start buckling on their lovely bronze articles and sharpening up their far-shadowing footnotes now. There could be blood on them that journals before very long.

Peter Jones

The Red Men, by Patrick McGinley (Flamingo, £3.95)

An autocratic father in Ireland dominates his family from his sick-bed, while his sons scurry around wondering which of them will inherit his money when he dies. There are really three of them: one is a priest, one a scholar, one a scientist who runs the village shop.

The fourth red man was Jack, but he drives into the sea and drowns early in the story, thus becoming powerful in the

imaginations of the others who run the family hotel and are waiting for their father to die.

Their father gives them each £10,000 as a test to see what they can make of it, but their lives cannot move on while he is there. Their various relationships fail, memories of the past obstruct the present, and the new rivalry between them causes each to doubt identity and destiny.

Anne Barnes

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

For his eyes only

Something quite extraordinary has risen from a fold in the Cheshire countryside: if you did not know better you would say it is was Palladio's Villa Capra (aka "la Rotonda").

In fact, amid great secrecy, the former Ferranti chairman Sebastian de Ferranti has built a version of the 16th century Italian rotunda to replace his family home, Henbury Hall, near Macclesfield, which was taken down in the 1950s.

Quinlan Terry, the original architect, was replaced by Julian Ricknell, whose design was based on a painting by Felix Kelly. Although it has now been completed, de Ferranti is refusing to let members of the public inspect the building.

Pot boiler?

Fifty-year-old gossip about Edwina, Lady Mountbatten's supposed affair with the singer Paul Robeson is to be reheated later this month at the Young Vic in Robeson, *Song of Freedom*. Playwright Andy Rashleigh, who has the current distinction of playing the chef in *Crossroads*, has the couple kissing on stage — "though that's all," he assures me.



Robeson and Edwina

Philip Ziegler, Mountbatten's official biographer, calls the idea "insane" and "offensive". "The People newspaper spent £20,000 trying to prove it was true when they ran the story and lost the libel case. It's a pity no one's alive to sue today. It'd be pretty easy money."

● Eyebrows are being raised at this week's appointment of Sir George Christie as chairman of the Arts Council's advisory panel on music. Sir George is the chairman of the London Sinfonietta, last year granted by £290,000-worth of Arts Council subsidy. Michael de Grey, the orchestra's administrator, says Sir George will not step down and that the Council must sort out the apparent conflict of interest.

Crushing blow

Last week sculptor David Mach and students from Kingston Polytechnic finished weaving a 90 by 50 foot carpet from three tons of tinsplated steel.

Heart-breakingly it was only in one piece for two hours before the scrap metal men towed it away. Mach says: "You would have thought it would be worth something, but I had to pay them to take it."

Watch this space

BBC2 is still odds on to get its nightly arts programme, announced last year. Leslie Megaw, the BBC's new head of music and arts, has recently been dubbed about his prospects.

However, Alan Yentob, BBC2's new controller, tells me that he is fully behind the show, to be anchored some nights by Clive James, and hopes the DG will find the money soon.

Andrew Billen

The Naked truth

ROCK RECORDS

Talking Heads: *Naked* (EMI EMD 1005)
Prefab Sprout: *From Langley Park to Memphis* (Kitchenware NW 357-2) (CD, also on LP)

Ever a group in search of new cultural stimuli, and surely the original "world music" rock band, Talking Heads has taken its operation to Paris for the recording of *Naked*. As well as the familiar nucleus of David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Tina Weymouth and Jerry Harrison, the album features a cosmopolitan array of musicians lending a riot of regional colour to Byrne's oblique observations on the human condition.

Elements of Algerian-Moroccan rai music jostle with big-band brass sections, African high life guitar and, on a few tracks, some marginal contributions from the former Smiths' guitarist, Johnny Marr.

"Blind" is loosely speaking a James Brown homage with lyrics that flit past like trees outside a train window. "Mr Jones" has neo-Joe Loss latine interludes and "The Facts of Life" bounces spookily along on a synthesized riff that suggests the stiff mecha-

nized rhythms of a factory production line.

There's a feeling that the group has been here before and, despite some good moments, it is a long, rambling album. The material was conceived during rehearsal room jams and the project suffers accordingly from a general lack of structure and coherence.

Prefab Sprout's third album, *From Langley Park to Memphis*, is once again a collection of meticulously recorded songs that will frequently be described as "crafted". Many of these melodies, particularly "Nightgales" with its breathy vocals and "Hey Manhattan", which features a hideous Mantovani-style string passage, would doubtless be confined to the limbo of the Radio 2 playlist had the singer-songwriter Paddy McAloon not called his group by such an improbable name.

The album is partially redeemed by one or two cute rockers, like "Cars And Girls" and "The Golden Calf", but by and large if this is the new acceptable face of pop it can't be long before the Mike Summers Singers are back in vogue. David Sinclair



David Byrne: "Oblique observations on human condition"

Piling on the passion

When they released an album of Duke Ellington and Bill Strayhorn standards last year, the World Saxophone Quartet met with a mixed response. Some admirers thought the austere approach added new dimensions to familiar tunes; others felt the arrangements lacked the warmth of the Ellington repertoire.

There are unlikely to be any arguments about *Dances and Ballads*, whose ambience is best summed up by the title of Hamiet Bluiett's composition "Full, Deep and Mellow". True, the album opens with a raging storm in "Sweet D", but it soon settles into more relaxed themes, with some of the most memorable playing reserved for David Murray's haunting lament "For Lester". Here Murray shows once again just how far he has moved into the mainstream tradition since his early work in the avant-garde.

The mood is not entirely subdued. "Hattie Wall" rushes along like a skeletal R&B stomper, and Murray's "Fast Life" is a hectic blowing contest.

While other saxophone quartets often seem to be limited to glib exercises in

JAZZ RECORDS

World Saxophone Quartet: *Dances and Ballads* (Elektra/Nonesuch 979 164-1)
Bill Frisell Band: *Lookout For Hope* (ECM 833 4951)
Moose Allison: *Ever Since The World Ended* (Blue Note BLJ 48015)

time-keeping, Murray and his colleagues take passion to the limit.

As might be expected on an album from the ECM stable, the debut outing by the Bill Frisell Band is a more restrained affair. Always in demand as a sideman, Frisell is an uncharacteristic leader, more concerned with texture than histrionics. One of the rare flashes of extrovert playing emerges on the one cover version, Thelouise Monk's "Hackensack".

Somewhat I cannot see this album displacing Pat Metheny or John Scofield in

"Some of the most memorable playing is reserved for David Murray's haunting lament *For Lester*"

the popularity stakes. However, with the discreet contributions of cellist Hank Roberts, Frisell has a broad palette at his disposal as he switches between electric and acoustic guitars and banjo.

Over the mild reggae beat of "Little Brother Bobby" he even goes Country & Western, conjuring up the strains of the pedal steel guitar.

Moose Allison, not the most prolific of artists, makes a welcome return to the studio with 10 bitter-sweet songs about love and American mores. Backed by Arthur Blythe, Benny Wallace and Kenny Barrcliff, among others, he is in tasteful company, even if the sleeve notes' comparisons with Monk (not to mention William Faulkner) are a little overstated.

His keyboard technique is mainly kept in the shadows, but he produces a splash of memorable blues runs on "Pattin' Up With Me".

All in all, the LP should appeal to the romantics in the jazz fraternity and rock fans who want to venture beyond the bar room pastiche of Tom Waits.

Clive Davis

Life in the old glockenspiel yet

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Reich: *Drumming*. Steve Reich and Musicians. Nonesuch 979 170-1 (LP, also on cassette)
Reich: *Early works*. Nonesuch 979 169-1 (LP, also on cassette)
Crumb: *An Idyll for the Misbegotten*. Vox baleneae, Madrigals. New World/Conifer NW 357-2 (CD, also on LP)
heav: *Songs*. Crumb: Apparition. DeGaetani, Kalish. Bridge/Pinnacle BCD 9006 (CD)

Steve Reich's *Drumming* (1970-71) is one of the great classics of the time when minimalism was still new and exploratory: a symphony of repetitive patterns played on drums, marimbas and glockenspiels.

It is certainly a piece that needs to be kept in the record repertoire, though the new account will not displace the longer 1974 Deutsche Grammophon version.

One can see the point of condensing the piece to fit a single disc (the new performance is right at the short end of the composer's indicated range), but the effect is bound to be one of sickness — an effect exacerbated, perhaps, by the fact that the performers, many of them members of Reich's team since the start of

the 1970s, have been here so often before.

The collection of Early works is much more welcome, especially for the remarkable tape pieces "It's gonna rain" (1965) and "Come out" (1966), each of which uses a fragment of recorded speech to make a music of words slowly slipping out of alignment and eventually producing unintelligible cascades.

George Crumb's music, while also returning to the ancient means of voices and percussion, does so with none of Reich's innocence but with fulsome self-dramatization. *An Idyll for the Misbegotten*, for flute and percussion, wisely quotes Debussy's *Syrinx* to show the difference between fake and real magic; Vox baleneae, for flute, cello and piano, similarly shoots itself in the foot by referring to Messiaen. The New World collection also restores Jan DeGaetani's 1969 recording of the *Madrigals*, cries and invocations after Lorca.

Accompanied by Gilbert Kalish, the sounds ripen but still clear and unpretentious in her 1982 recording for Bridge, though one could do with more of her nicely witty, sentimental lures (a group of familiar and less well-known songs, of comedies, romances and passions) and less of Crumb's morbid Apparition.

Paul Griffiths

CHESS

Tribute to a legend

This year is the centenary of the birth of the legendary Cuban José Capablanca who was born on 19 November 1888.

This is the homage paid to Capa (as he is generally known) by another great champion, Mikhail Botvinnik.

"I consider Capablanca as the greatest talent of all times. He did not do much exploration in the openings, but unlike Lasker, he neglected the practical side too. He was counting only on his extraordinary talent for the game. With his great understanding of the position, enriched by his ability to figure out complicated variations, he thought he would always find the best solution... When young, he succeeded completely. Some of his games remained complete masterpieces... the way he analysed, understood the position... There in such things, lay the enormous power of José Raúl Capablanca."

To illustrate Capa's style, here is one of his ice-cold strategic victories, the victim being Alexander Alekhine, who was to wrest the world title from the hitherto invincible Capa later in 1927. White: Alekhine; Black: Capablanca. New York 1927, Queen's Indian Defence

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 e4 e5 3 Nc3 Nc6 4 Bb5 Nd7 5 Bxc6 bxc6 6 Nf3 Nf6 7 e4 e5 8 Nc3 Nc6 9 Bb5 Nd7 10 Bxc6 bxc6 11 Nf3 Nf6 12 e4 e5 13 Nc3 Nc6 14 Bb5 Nd7 15 Bxc6 bxc6 16 Nf3 Nf6 17 e4 e5 18 Nc3 Nc6 19 Bb5 Nd7 20 Bxc6 bxc6 21 Nf3 Nf6 22 e4 e5 23 Nc3 Nc6 24 Bb5 Nd7 25 Bxc6 bxc6 26 Nf3 Nf6 27 e4 e5 28 Nc3 Nc6 29 Bb5 Nd7 30 Bxc6 bxc6 31 Nf3 Nf6 32 e4 e5 33 Nc3 Nc6 34 Bb5 Nd7 35 Bxc6 bxc6 36 Nf3 Nf6 37 e4 e5 38 Nc3 Nc6 39 Bb5 Nd7 40 Bxc6 bxc6 41 Nf3 Nf6 42 e4 e5 43 Nc3 Nc6 44 Bb5 Nd7 45 Bxc6 bxc6 46 Nf3 Nf6 47 e4 e5 48 Nc3 Nc6 49 Bb5 Nd7 50 Bxc6 bxc6 51 Nf3 Nf6 52 e4 e5 53 Nc3 Nc6 54 Bb5 Nd7 55 Bxc6 bxc6 56 Nf3 Nf6 57 e4 e5 58 Nc3 Nc6 59 Bb5 Nd7 60 Bxc6 bxc6 61 Nf3 Nf6 62 e4 e5 63 Nc3 Nc6 64 Bb5 Nd7 65 Bxc6 bxc6 66 Nf3 Nf6 67 e4 e5 68 Nc3 Nc6 69 Bb5 Nd7 70 Bxc6 bxc6 71 Nf3 Nf6 72 e4 e5 73 Nc3 Nc6 74 Bb5 Nd7 75 Bxc6 bxc6 76 Nf3 Nf6 77 e4 e5 78 Nc3 Nc6 79 Bb5 Nd7 80 Bxc6 bxc6 81 Nf3 Nf6 82 e4 e5 83 Nc3 Nc6 84 Bb5 Nd7 85 Bxc6 bxc6 86 Nf3 Nf6 87 e4 e5 88 Nc3 Nc6 89 Bb5 Nd7 90 Bxc6 bxc6 91 Nf3 Nf6 92 e4 e5 93 Nc3 Nc6 94 Bb5 Nd7 95 Bxc6 bxc6 96 Nf3 Nf6 97 e4 e5 98 Nc3 Nc6 99 Bb5 Nd7 100 Bxc6 bxc6

Much better is 10 Bg5 h6 11 Nxd5! as indeed later occurred in the game Capablanca (now playing White) v Marshall at the Carlsbad tournament two years later.

Alekhine now begins some complex and artificial attacking manoeuvres but they have little effect. Simpler is 13 e4. 13... e4 14 Bc2 Bb7 15 Nf3 Nf6 16 e4 e5 17 Nc3 Nc6 18 Bb5 Nd7 19 Bxc6 bxc6 20 Nf3 Nf6 21 e4 e5 22 Nc3 Nc6 23 Bb5 Nd7 24 Bxc6 bxc6 25 Nf3 Nf6 26 e4 e5 27 Nc3 Nc6 28 Bb5 Nd7 29 Bxc6 bxc6 30 Nf3 Nf6 31 e4 e5 32 Nc3 Nc6 33 Bb5 Nd7 34 Bxc6 bxc6 35 Nf3 Nf6 36 e4 e5 37 Nc3 Nc6 38 Bb5 Nd7 39 Bxc6 bxc6 40 Nf3 Nf6 41 e4 e5 42 Nc3 Nc6 43 Bb5 Nd7 44 Bxc6 bxc6 45 Nf3 Nf6 46 e4 e5 47 Nc3 Nc6 48 Bb5 Nd7 49 Bxc6 bxc6 50 Nf3 Nf6 51 e4 e5 52 Nc3 Nc6 53 Bb5 Nd7 54 Bxc6 bxc6 55 Nf3 Nf6 56 e4 e5 57 Nc3 Nc6 58 Bb5 Nd7 59 Bxc6 bxc6 60 Nf3 Nf6 61 e4 e5 62 Nc3 Nc6 63 Bb5 Nd7 64 Bxc6 bxc6 65 Nf3 Nf6 66 e4 e5 67 Nc3 Nc6 68 Bb5 Nd7 69 Bxc6 bxc6 70 Nf3 Nf6 71 e4 e5 72 Nc3 Nc6 73 Bb5 Nd7 74 Bxc6 bxc6 75 Nf3 Nf6 76 e4 e5 77 Nc3 Nc6 78 Bb5 Nd7 79 Bxc6 bxc6 80 Nf3 Nf6 81 e4 e5 82 Nc3 Nc6 83 Bb5 Nd7 84 Bxc6 bxc6 85 Nf3 Nf6 86 e4 e5 87 Nc3 Nc6 88 Bb5 Nd7 89 Bxc6 bxc6 90 Nf3 Nf6 91 e4 e5 92 Nc3 Nc6 93 Bb5 Nd7 94 Bxc6 bxc6 95 Nf3 Nf6 96 e4 e5 97 Nc3 Nc6 98 Bb5 Nd7 99 Bxc6 bxc6 100 Nf3 Nf6

Threatening 16... b5 and if 17 axb5 axb5 18 Nxb5 Qb6+.

Sounder is simply 17 Kh1. 17... Nc5 18 g5

Better is 18 Bxc5. 18... Nc5 19 Bxc5 Nc5 20 Bxc5 Nc5 21 Bxc5 Nc5 22 Bxc5 Nc5 23 Bxc5 Nc5 24 Bxc5 Nc5 25 Bxc5 Nc5 26 Bxc5 Nc5 27 Bxc5 Nc5 28 Bxc5 Nc5 29 Bxc5 Nc5 30 Bxc5 Nc5 31 Bxc5 Nc5 32 Bxc5 Nc5 33 Bxc5 Nc5 34 Bxc5 Nc5 35 Bxc5 Nc5 36 Bxc5 Nc5 37 Bxc5 Nc5 38 Bxc5 Nc5 39 Bxc5 Nc5 40 Bxc5 Nc5 41 Bxc5 Nc5 42 Bxc5 Nc5 43 Bxc5 Nc5 44 Bxc5 Nc5 45 Bxc5 Nc5 46 Bxc5 Nc5 47 Bxc5 Nc5 48 Bxc5 Nc5 49 Bxc5 Nc5 50 Bxc5 Nc5 51 Bxc5 Nc5 52 Bxc5 Nc5 53 Bxc5 Nc5 54 Bxc5 Nc5 55 Bxc5 Nc5 56 Bxc5 Nc5 57 Bxc5 Nc5 58 Bxc5 Nc5 59 Bxc5 Nc5 60 Bxc5 Nc5 61 Bxc5 Nc5 62 Bxc5 Nc5 63 Bxc5 Nc5 64 Bxc5 Nc5 65 Bxc5 Nc5 66 Bxc5 Nc5 67 Bxc5 Nc5 68 Bxc5 Nc5 69 Bxc5 Nc5 70 Bxc5 Nc5 71 Bxc5 Nc5 72 Bxc5 Nc5 73 Bxc5 Nc5 74 Bxc5 Nc5 75 Bxc5 Nc5 76 Bxc5 Nc5 77 Bxc5 Nc5 78 Bxc5 Nc5 79 Bxc5 Nc5 80 Bxc5 Nc5 81 Bxc5 Nc5 82 Bxc5 Nc5 83 Bxc5 Nc5 84 Bxc5 Nc5 85 Bxc5 Nc5 86 Bxc5 Nc5 87 Bxc5 Nc5 88 Bxc5 Nc5 89 Bxc5 Nc5 90 Bxc5 Nc5 91 Bxc5 Nc5 92 Bxc5 Nc5 93 Bxc5 Nc5 94 Bxc5 Nc5 95 Bxc5 Nc5 96 Bxc5 Nc5 97 Bxc5 Nc5 98 Bxc5 Nc5 99 Bxc5 Nc5 100 Bxc5 Nc5

Now everything falls apart. 28 Rxb3 Nxb3 29 Rxb3 Nxb3 30 Rxb3 Nxb3 31 Rxb3 Nxb3 32 Rxb3 Nxb3 33 Rxb3 Nxb3 34 Rxb3 Nxb3 35 Rxb3 Nxb3 36 Rxb3 Nxb3 37 Rxb3 Nxb3 38 Rxb3 Nxb3 39 Rxb3 Nxb3 40 Rxb3 Nxb3 41 Rxb3 Nxb3 42 Rxb3 Nxb3 43 Rxb3 Nxb3 44 Rxb3 Nxb3 45 Rxb3 Nxb3 46 Rxb3 Nxb3 47 Rxb3 Nxb3 48 Rxb3 Nxb3 49 Rxb3 Nxb3 50 Rxb3 Nxb3 51 Rxb3 Nxb3 52 Rxb3 Nxb3 53 Rxb3 Nxb3 54 Rxb3 Nxb3 55 Rxb3 Nxb3 56 Rxb3 Nxb3 57 Rxb3 Nxb3 58 Rxb3 Nxb3 59 Rxb3 Nxb3 60 Rxb3 Nxb3 61 Rxb3 Nxb3 62 Rxb3 Nxb3 63 Rxb3 Nxb3 64 Rxb3 Nxb3 65 Rxb3 Nxb3 66 Rxb3 Nxb3 67 Rxb3 Nxb3 68 Rxb3 Nxb3 69 Rxb3 Nxb3 70 Rxb3 Nxb3 71 Rxb3 Nxb3 72 Rxb3 Nxb3 73 Rxb3 Nxb3 74 Rxb3 Nxb3 75 Rxb3 Nxb3 76 Rxb3 Nxb3 77 Rxb3 Nxb3 78 Rxb3 Nxb3 79 Rxb3 Nxb3 80 Rxb3 Nxb3 81 Rxb3 Nxb3 82 Rxb3 Nxb3 83 Rxb3 Nxb3 84 Rxb3 Nxb3 85 Rxb3 Nxb3 86 Rxb3 Nxb3 87 Rxb3 Nxb3 88 Rxb3 Nxb3 89 Rxb3 Nxb3 90 Rxb3 Nxb3 91 Rxb3 Nxb3 92 Rxb3 Nxb3 93 Rxb3 Nxb3 94 Rxb3 Nxb3 95 Rxb3 Nxb3 96 Rxb3 Nxb3 97 Rxb3 Nxb3 98 Rxb3 Nxb3 99 Rxb3 Nxb3 100 Rxb3 Nxb3

White resigns. Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Fatal distraction

"You threw away my most valuable card," North exclaimed, after the declarer had been defeated in his contract.

Rubber bridge. Love all. Dealer South.

♠ J10874
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

♠ J10874
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

On the previous round of clubs, declarer had flashily discarded dummy's ♠Q. Now he played another club, dispatching the ♠J. He continued with the ♠6 which might, in different circumstances, have posed a problem for West, because if declarer had only two spades West must grab his ♠Q. As it was, West could be confident that East would have discarded a small spade if he had one. So West ducked and, after the formality of a losing diamond finesse, South conceded defeat.

Did you spot that fatal discard from dummy? Yes, the ♠J. If declarer retains the ♠J, after winning trick nine with dummy's ♠10, he can ruff the ♠J before putting West on play with a spade. The effect of playing a third round of hearts is to deprive West of his only safe exit card.

discard unwisely, declarer played two rounds of trumps, leading to this position.

♠ J1087
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

♠ J1087
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

♠ J1087
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

♠ J1087
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

♠ J1087
♥ J55
♦ J10
♣ J10

Jeremy Flint

CROSSWORD

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1512

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 17. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, March 19.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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THE WEEK AHEAD



OPERA

AMAZING GRACE: Grace Bumbry began her professional career exactly 30 years ago. She established herself in the mezzo repertory with Verdi villainesses and, above all, as Bizet's Carmen. More recently she has been taking on soprano roles, including Tosca, which she sings at Covent Garden's revival of Puccini's opera. A very experienced cast is completed by Lockhart conducts Tosca for the first time at the Royal Opera. Royal Opera House (01-242 1068) on Monday.



JAZZ

SAXE APPEAL: Tommy Smith was hailed as one of the outstanding prospects in British jazz when he was just 16. Now 20, he has spent much of his brief career in the United States, playing with established leaders including Gary Burton. With Idris Muhammad on drums, Smith takes his quartet to Bath University to launch the city's annual Jazz Week. Other artists appearing are Dudu Pukwana's Zila, Martin Taylor, Eberhard Weber and the Tommy Chase Quintet. Festival office: 0225 62577. From tonight.



CINEMA

BRINGING UP BABY: Diane Keaton recently directed a documentary about heaven, but she returns in front of the camera in Charles Shyer's *Baby Boom* (PG) — a modish comedy about a power-hungry careerist whose life is thrown haywire by the arrival of an apple-cheeked baby girl. Harold Ramis plays the boyfriend who can't cope; actor-author Sam Shepard is the new Mr Right. Babies seem to be in fashion: a current American box-office hit is *Three Men and a Cradle* (14), from Friday.



GALLERIES

ACID DRIPS: Norman Ackroyd is a traditionalist among English artists in that the countryside presents to him an inexhaustible subject. His distinctive technique in etching is to supplement the customary sharp etched lines with acid washes brushed directly onto the plate. This gives his work an uncommon breadth and atmospheric effect. An exhibition of Ackroyd's recent prints and watercolours depicting the Western Shores of Scotland is at Anderson O'Day Fine Art, London W11 (01-221 7592). From Thursday.



DANCE

GAMES SHOW: Janet Smith and dancers have an accessible and entertaining style. They bring four new works to London this week. *Now and Then* is based on children's games and fantasies; Smith's *Five Preludes* takes a light-hearted look at women in Victorian art and society; *One Fine Day at Court* by Ann Dewey, similarly surveys 17th century manners. Finally Robert North's *Whip it to a Jelly* aims to catch the bustle of urban America in the Thirties. Shaw Theatre, London NW1 (01-388 1394) from Tuesday.



THEATRE

IMOGEN AGAIN: Harriet Walter repeats her Stratford performance as Imogen in *Cymbeline*, which opens the RSC's London season this week. Bill Alexander directs Nicholas Farrell, David Bradley, Bruce Alexander, Julie Lagrand, Donald Sumpter, in a production of a Shakespeare rarely hailed as admirably clear and persuasive. Harriet is also to be seen in *Twelfth Night* and a new production, in August, of Chekhov's *The Three Sisters*. The Pit (01-638 8891). Previews from Wednesday. Opens March 22.

THEATRE LONDON

ABSOLUTE HELL: 50th birthday production for local playwright Rodney Ackland. An "epic" play with a cast of 18, set in a drinking club in 1945. The Orange Tree, New Road, Richmond upon Thames (01-940 3633). Preview Thurs. Opens Fri.

HOLY DAYS: British premiere of *Ulysses*, by Seán Ní Mheallaigh. Brian Fournier, Barbara Barnes, David Barnes and Brid Brennan, directed by Brian Stiller. Soho Poly, 16 Riding House Street, W1 (01-636 9050). Previews Wed and Thurs. Opens Fri.

THE MIRACLE WORKER: Hildegard Neil, Ian Lavender, Daryl Back, in William Gibson's classic play about blind deauna Helen Keller. Westminster (01-634 0283). Previews today, Mon and Tues. Opens Wed.

THE TUTOR: Brecht's adaptation of a comic melodrama by Reinhold Lenz, directed by Angelika Hurwicz. The Old Vic (01-928 7816). Previews today and Mon. Opens Tues.

THE UNKNOWING OF STRANGERS: 45-minute Platform Performance from the writings of Tennessee Williams, about his relationship with his critics. Cast from *Car on a Hot Tin Roof*. Lyttelton, National Theatre (01-928 2252). Mon, Tues, March 31 and in April, May, June, 6pm.

WILD AT HEART: Rikki Beadle Blair directs Felice Theatre Company in a multi-media comedy musical about a young East End gangster. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (01-748 3354). Opens Tues.

OUT OF TOWN

FARMHAM: The Fathoms Rachel Kempson joins David Harcourt, Chloe Ansell, Richard Simpson and Philip Lowrie, in *Sirindberg* on the stage of the theatre named after her late husband. Redgrave (0252 715301). Opens Wed.

GOOLE: Reap the Whirlwind: The town play of Howden, with a cast of more than 120 in a tale of the early 19th century. Booking Office (Promenade production) (0430 430200). Opens Tues.

MANCHESTER: Romeo and Juliet: The Black Tamba Theatre Company present a production set in pre-revolutionary Cuba. Contact (061 274 4400). Opens Wed.

OLDHAM: The Stearns: English premiere of Tony Roper's comedy, set in a Scottish wash-house. Coliseum (061 624 2828). Free dress-rehearsal Wed. Opens Thurs.

SALISBURY: Mary Stuart: Premiere of Claire Luckham's version of Shakespeare's classic play. Mary McCusker, Philippa Urquhart, directed by David Horlock. Playhouse (0722 20333). Opens Thurs.

CONCERTS

JORGE BOLET: The great pianist plays Mendelssohn's *Andante* and Rondo: Capriccioso, Beethoven's *Sonata Op 110*, Franck's *Prelude, Choral and Fugue* and the *Bellini-Liszt* Reminiscences de Norma. Royal Festival Hall, South Kensington (01-928 3191, or 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 3.15pm.

WORD-WATCHING: Answers from page 24
CLIQUETTES (a) Shag French plant for ease, for insoluble Celtic reasons.
INFUCTION (c) To collar or paint the face, from the Latin past participle *infundere* smeared with paint.

JIGGLE (a) Blatant female sexual exploitation, from the bouncing and shaking of a woman's parts, as in, "Advertisers see wall-to-wall page in prime time."

AVIFAUNA (b) The birds native to a particular region (cf. *fauna* the local fish) from the Latin and a bird, and *fauna* originally a goddess of the forest.

THEME, VARIATIONS: The

"Theme with Variations" series devoted to British music continues with Richard Hickox conducting the LSO in Vaughan Williams's *London Symphony*. Then the London Symphony Chorus and soloists are added for Tippett's *A Child of Our Time*. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, or 01-638 8891). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

WELLER/RPO: The RPO is conducted by Walter Weller in Wagner's *Die Meistersinger* Overture, Schubert's *Symphony No 9*, and Dame Janet Baker sings Mahler's *Rückert Lieder*. Royal Festival Hall, Tues, 7.30pm.

SCHUMANN REVISED: David Atherton conducts the BBC SO in Schumann's *Symphony No 1* and Haydn's *Symphony No 90*. Thomas Allen sings Mahler's *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*. Royal Festival Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

FROM GOTHENBURG: Neeme Järvi conducts the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra in Berwald's *Estrella de Sorie* Overture, Sibelius's *Symphony No 1* and Brahms's *Double Concerto* with Kyung Wha Chung (violin) and Myung Wha Chung (cello) as soloists. Royal Festival Hall, Thurs, 7.30pm.

RICHARD WILLIAMS: The LSO is conducted by Richard Williams in Berlioz's *Concerto in G major* (Gwyneth Pryor, soloist) and the *Musorgsky-Ravel Pictures* at an Exhibition Barbican Centre, Fri, 7.45pm.

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: *Un Ballo in Maschera* continues with Giacomo Aragall, Margaret Price and Alexandru Agache, tonight and Tuesday. Friday *Frida Cappuccini* and Anna Tomowa-Sintov join the cast as the Andalusian and Amelia. Richard Armstrong conducts. *Eugene Onegin*, with Wolfgang Brendel, Peter Dvorsky and Mirilla Freni on Wednesday and Saturday March 19. All performances start at 7.30pm. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1068).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: *Cavendish* tonight, Tuesday and Friday led by Arthur Davies; another chance to see Tim Albery's revelatory production of *Billy Budd* on Thursday. All performances start at 7.30pm. Coliseum, St Martins Lane, London WC2 (01-636 3161).

ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC: *Rigoletto*, directed by Stefan Janski on Tuesday and Friday and *Così fan tutte* on Wednesday and Saturday March 19. All performances start at 7pm. Royal Northern College of Music, Oxford Road, Manchester (061 273 4504).

SCOTTISH OPERA: *Eugene Onegin* with Sergei Leiferkus, Joanna Kozłowska and Anthony Roden. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234). Tues, Thurs and Sat March 19, 7.30pm.

OPERA 30: *Carmen* and a neat, effective *Scarlatti*. Sian Edwards and Stephen Barlow share the conducting. From Tuesday for a week. Theatre Royal, Claskatgate, Lincoln (0522 25555).

ROCK

ASWAD: Veteran UK reggae group belting up the chart with "Don't Turn Around". Tomorrow, University of East Anglia, Norwich (0503 508401); Mon, Tue, Fri, Brighton (0273 736277); Tues, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081); Thurs, Corn Exchange, Cambridge (0223 357851); Fri, Coventry Polytechnic (0203 21167).

ROBERT PLANT: Rock legend in sprightly form. Wed, Newport Centre (0633 59676); Thurs, Warwick University (0203 417220).

JOAN BAEZ: Creaking old folk plugging racy autobiography. Wed, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081).

ANDY WHITE: St Patrick's night knees-up with Belfast's son of Dylan. Thurs, Acoustic Room, Mean Fiddler, London NW10 (01-961 5490).

PHOTOGRAPHY

RALPH GIBSON: First major British retrospective of the American who isolates fragments of the real world tautly within the photograph's frame with a succinct and minimalist result. The Photographers Gallery, 5 & 6 Great Newport Street, London WC2 (01-631 1772), until April 18.

FAY GODWIN IN COLOUR: First colour show for Godwin who is renowned for her black and white landscapes of remote areas of Britain. Most of this work was taken in and around Bradford during 1987. National Museum of Film and Photography, Prince's View, Bradford, West Yorkshire (0274 727488) until June 18.

RADIO

Barbara Jefford (above) plays the wife of a white South African imprisoned for his stand against apartheid in *Sanctions*, a play by the historian David Caste. It charts the moral dilemmas of the family and particularly the son (Bill Nighy) who has to decide whether to risk endangering his father's life by carrying on his work or betraying his ideals by negotiating for his freedom. Radio 4, Monday, 8.15-9.45pm.



EXHIBITION ROAD: A major show of paintings by 20th century graduates and teachers at the College. Royal College of Art, London SW7 (01-584 5020). From today.

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CROSSFIRE: Eamon Boland plays a Home Office computer expert tracking down an IRA mole in a five-part thriller by John McNeil. BBC1, Tues, 9.40-10.30pm.

MARTIN LUTHER KING: THE LEGACY: On the 20th anniversary of his assassination, a reassessment of the black rights leader and extent to which his dream of racial equality has been realized in the United States. ITV, Tues, 10.45-12.15am.

CREDITORS: Suzanne Bertish, Jonathan Kent and Ian McDiarmid in August Strindberg's play about marital troubles, recreating their roles from the highly-praised 1986 stage production. Channel 4, Wed, 10.30pm-12.15am.

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THIS IS WHO WE ARE: Author

and lecturer Christopher Small presents the first of three programmes on Afro-American music, with illustrations from the Count Basie orchestra, Aretha Franklin and Muddy Waters. Radio 3, Tues, 6.30-7pm.

JAMES JOYCE'S CHAMBER MUSIC POEMS: St Patrick's Day performances of 32 Joyce poems set to music by his favourite composer, Geoffrey Mayneux Palmer. Radio 3, 10.50-11.50am, 4.20-6pm.

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PAST AND PRESENT: An

interesting survey of sketches made from Old Master paintings by 15 contemporary artists including Anthony Eyton and Timothy Hyman. Norwich School of Art, Norwich (0603 610561). From today.

JAMES PITTENDRIGH MACGILLIVRAY (1856-1938): A collection of works by the most famous Scottish academic sculptor of his day. Aberdeen Art Gallery (0224 646333). From today.

FILMS ON TV

WOODY ALLEN (above) plays a human chameleon, submitting his personality to the world around him, in *Zelig*, his 1983 film which has its British television premiere next week. One of the most inspired and incisive of Allen's comedies, it cunningly uses newsreel footage to set up encounters between the Allen/Zelig character and real life figures like Fanny Brice, Pope Pius XI and Adolf Hitler. Channel 4, Tuesday, 10-11.30pm.

ROYAL BALLET: Ashton's *Cinderella* (Monday) to Thursday, then *Still Life at the Penguin Café*, Ashton's *Symphonic Variations* and Robbins's *The Concert* (Friday and March 19). Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7486).

DANCE ADVANCE: Regional tour by small new group of ex-Covent Garden or Sadler's Wells dancers, premiere of Kenneth MacMillan's *Sea of Troubles* and a work by Choo San Goh. Gardner Centre, Brighton (0273 885861).

THORNE OF BLOOD (1967): Akira Kurosawa's stylised, visually stunning translation of the *Macbeth* story to medieval Japan. Toshio Mifune plays the central character, a samurai spurred on by his wife to commit murder. Channel 4, Thurs, 12.30-2.30am.

SCOTLAND: 2.45pm Conference 00 6.55-6.58 Sports News 6.58-6.59 News and weather 6.59-7.00 7.00-7.01 Sports News 7.01-7.02 7.02-7.03 Sports News 7.03-7.04 7.04-7.05 Sports News 7.05-7.06 7.06-7.07 Sports News 7.07-7.08 7.08-7.09 Sports News 7.09-7.10 7.10-7.11 Sports News 7.11-7.12 7.12-7.13 Sports News 7.13-7.14 7.14-7.15 Sports News 7.15-7.16 7.16-7.17 Sports News 7.17-7.18 7.18-7.19 Sports News 7.19-7.20 7.20-7.21 Sports News 7.21-7.22 7.22-7.23 Sports News 7.23-7.24 7.24-7.25 Sports News 7.25-7.26 7.26-7.27 Sports News 7.27-7.28 7.28-7.29 Sports News 7.29-7.30 7.30-7.31 Sports News 7.31-7.32 7.32-7.33 Sports News 7.33-7.34 7.34-7.35 Sports News 7.35-7.36 7.36-7.37 Sports News 7.37-7.38 7.38-7.39 Sports News 7.39-7.40 7.40-7.41 Sports News 7.41-7.42 7.42-7.43 Sports News 7.43-7.44 7.44-7.45 Sports News 7.45-7.46 7.46-7.47 Sports News 7.47-7.48 7.48-7.49 Sports News 7.49-7.50 7.50-7.51 Sports News 7.51-7.52 7.52-7.53 Sports News 7.53-7.54 7.54-7.55 Sports News 7.55-7.56 7.56-7.57 Sports News 7.57-7.58 7.58-7.59 Sports News 7.59-7.60 7.60-7.61 Sports News 7.61-7.62 7.62-7.63 Sports News 7.63-7.64 7.64-7.65 Sports News 7.65-7.66 7.66-7.67 Sports News 7.67-7.68 7.68-7.69 Sports News 7.69-7.70 7.70-7.71 Sports News 7.71-7.72 7.72-7.73 Sports News 7.73-7.74 7.74-7.75 Sports News 7.75-7.76 7.76-7.77 Sports News 7.77-7.78 7.78-7.79 Sports News 7.79-7.80 7.80-7.81 Sports News 7.81-7.82 7.82-7.83 Sports News 7.83-7.84 7.84-7.85 Sports News 7.85-7.86 7.86-7.87 Sports News 7.87-7.88 7.88-7.89 Sports News 7.89-7.90 7.90-7.91 Sports News 7.91-7.92 7.92-7.93 Sports News 7.93-7.94 7.94-7.95 Sports News 7.95-7.96 7.96-7.97 Sports News 7.97-7.98 7.98-7.99 Sports News 7.99-7.60 7.60-7.61 Sports News 7.61-7.62 7.62-7.63 Sports News 7.63-7.64 7.64-7.65 Sports News 7.65-7.66 7.66-7.67 Sports News 7.67-7.68 7.68-7.69 Sports News 7.69-7.70 7.70-7.71 Sports News 7.71-7.72 7.72-7.73 Sports News 7.73-7.74 7.74-7.75 Sports News 7.75-7.76 7.76-7.77 Sports News 7.77-7.78 7.78-7.79 Sports News 7.79-7.80 7.80-7.81 Sports News 7.81-7.82 7.82-7.83 Sports News 7.83-7.84 7.84-7.85 Sports News 7.85-7.86 7.86-7.87 Sports News 7.87-7.88 7.88-7.89 Sports News 7.89-7.90 7.90-7.91 Sports News 7.91-7.92 7.92-7.93 Sports News 7.93-7.94 7.94-7.95 Sports News 7.95-7.96 7.96-7.97 Sports News 7.97-7.98 7.98-7.99 Sports News 7.99-7.60 7.60-7.61 Sports News 7.61-7.62 7.62-7.63 Sports News 7.63-7.64 7.64-7.65 Sports News 7.65-7.66 7.66-7.67 Sports News 7.67-7.68 7.68-7.69 Sports News 7.69-7.70 7.70-7.71 Sports News 7.71-7.72 7.72-7.73 Sports News 7.73-7.74 7.74-7.75 Sports News 7.75-7.76 7.76-7.77 Sports News 7.77-7.78 7.78-7.79 Sports News 7.79-7.80 7.80-7.81 Sports News 7.81-7.82 7.82-7.83 Sports News 7.83-7.84 7.84-7.85 Sports News 7.85-7.86 7.86-7.87 Sports News 7.87-7.88 7.88-7.89 Sports News 7.89-7.90 7.90-7.91 Sports News 7.91-7.92 7.92-7.93 Sports News 7.93-7.94 7.94-7.95 Sports News 7.95-7.96 7.96-7.97 Sports News 7.97-7.98 7.98-7.99 Sports News 7.99-7.60 7.60-7.61 Sports News 7.61-7.62 7.62-7.63 Sports News 7.63-7.64 7.64-7.65 Sports News 7.65-7.66 7.66-7.67 Sports News 7.67-7.68 7.68-7.69 Sports News 7.69-7.70 7.70-7.71 Sports News 7.71-7.72 7.72-7.73 Sports News 7.73-7.74 7.74-7.75 Sports News 7.75-7.76 7.76-7.77 Sports News 7.77-7.78 7.78-7.79 Sports News 7.79-7.80 7.80-7.81 Sports News 7.81-7.82 7.82-7.83 Sports News 7.83-7.84 7.84-7.85 Sports News 7.85-7.86 7.86-7.87 Sports News 7.87-7.88 7.88-7.89 Sports News 7.89-7.90 7.90-7.91 Sports News 7.91-7.92 7.92-7.93 Sports News 7.93-7.94 7.94-7.95 Sports News 7.95-7.96 7.96-7.97 Sports News 7.97-7.98 7.98-7.99 Sports News 7.99-7.60 7.60-7.61 Sports News 7.61-7.62 7.62-7.63 Sports News 7.63-7.64 7.64-7.65 Sports News 7.65-7.66 7.66-7.67 Sports News 7.67-7.68 7.68-7.69 Sports News 7.69-7.70 7.70-7.71 Sports News 7.71-7.72 7.72-7.73 Sports News 7.73-7.74 7.74-7.75 Sports News 7.75-7.76 7.76-7.77 Sports News 7.77-7.78 7.78-7.79 Sports News 7.79-7.80 7.80-7.81 Sports News 7.81-7.82 7.82-7.83 Sports News 7.83-7.84 7.84-7.85 Sports News 7.85-7.86 7.86-7.87 Sports News 7.87-7.88 7.88-7.89 Sports News 7.89-7.90 7.90-7.91 Sports News 7.91-7.92 7.92-7.93 Sports News 7.93-7.94 7.94-7.95 Sports News 7.95-7.96 7.96-7.97 Sports News 7.97-7.98 7.98-7.99

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

● The cookery expert and restaurateur Kenneth Lo returns to his homeland in *Memories of China* (Channel 4, 7.30pm). He is accompanied, for no discernible reason, by an army of gourmets and wine and food writers and the host for this bizarre cookery tour is Hilary Minster, the actor who plays General Von Kluge in *Allo! Allo!*. The title suggests that a man who grew up in the China of the 1920s and 1930s will offer a personal insight into how the country has changed since he left it more than 50 years before. Curiously, this turns out not to be the case. While the hacks proceed from banquet to banquet, making occasional rude remarks about the

CHOICE

fare, Mr Lo confines himself to tourist guide phrases about treading in the footsteps of Marco Polo. Even a visit to his home town of Fuzhou fails to stir the inscrutable Mr Lo. He finds that many of the old landmarks have gone and says he has been away too long to feel much nostalgia. Just before the final credits roll, the company climb aboard a train. Suffering, perhaps, from a surfeit of banquets, the gourmets look exhausted. But there are 2,000 miles, and another programme, to go.

Peter Waymark



The fruit vendors of Qianzhong market, unchanged since Marco Polo's time: *Memories of China*, C4, 7.30pm



Rebecca Blackett with Sham Praderast, as her father, in the play *Place of Safety*, on ITV, at 9.05pm

CHOICE

● Though the accents happen to be Georgian rather than from Cleveland, Kay Mellor's play *Place of Safety* (ITV, 9.05pm) is not unconnected with recent events in the north-east of England. The leading characters are a working class couple (the husband is unemployed, the wife heavily pregnant) struggling to bring up two young children. The wife takes their five-year-old daughter to the hospital for a routine check and is delivered a bombshell — the doctor reckons that the girl has been sexually abused. The other child is also taken in for examination and there is a

P.W.

- BBC1**
- 6.45 Open University.
 - 8.25 Saturday Sports: Here with Comers (r), 8.40 *Rolling a Red Dice* (r).
 - 9.30 *Going Live!* The guests include A-ha, Bros and Frank Bruno.
 - 12.15 *Weather*.
 - 12.15 *Football* introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: 12.20 Football Focus: 12.50 News; 12.55 *Boat Race* from Craydon; 1.10, 3.05 and 4.00 *Rugby League*: a preview and coverage of Salford v Wigan; 1.25, 1.55 and 2.25 *Racing* from Chesham; 1.40, 2.10 and 3.50 *Swimming*: the Yorkshire Bank Club Team Championship; 2.40 *Boxing*: Embassy World Indoor Championship; 4.40 *Final Score*.
 - 5.05 *News with Moira Stuart*. 5.15 *Regional news/sport*.
 - 5.30 *First Class*. Torquay Grammar meet Walton Girls from Grantham.
 - 5.45 *Jan's Fix It*. Among the guests: Moira Stuart. Savile fixes it: are two sisters who see their Shetland pony dressed up as a Shire horse. (Coefax).
 - 6.30 *The Little and Large Show*. The last in the series. (Coefax).
 - 6.55 *Sony! Timothy and Jennifer* have arranged the wedding and booked the honeymoon (r). (Coefax).
 - 7.55 *Bob Says Opportunity* (r).
 - 8.15 *Film: How to Beat the Devil* (1959) starring Jessica Lange, Susan Saint James and Jane Curtin. Comedy about three impetuous Oregon housewives who decide to alleviate their problem by robbing a shopping centre. Directed by Robert Schenk.
 - 10.05 *News and sport*. With Moira Stuart. 10.15 *Match of the Day*. FA Cup Sixth Round action.
 - 11.15 *World News*. The second edition of the Embassy World Indoor Championship.
 - 11.55 *Film: Prisoner without a Name*. Cell with a Number (1959). Starring Roy Scheider and Liv Ullmann. A made-for-television drama, based on fact, about an influential newspaper editor who is accused of the murder of a woman. Directed by Max Ophüls.
 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- BBC2**
- 6.50 Open University.
 - 2.45 *Network East*. This week's edition of the Asian current affairs series includes news of a private prosecution case for victims of racial harassment and a profile of a Sikh stable-lad.
 - 3.25 *Film: Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?* (1957) starring Jayne Mansfield and Tony Randall. A comedy. Pinpointing the cynical side of advertising, about the consequences of a lipstick commercial. Directed by Frank Tashlin.
 - 4.55 *World News*. The first edition of the Embassy World Indoor Championship, introduced by David Icke from Alexandra Palace. The winners are David Rhys-Jones, Jimmy Davidson and Dougie Donnelly.
 - 5.15 *España Viva*. The Spanish lesson in the Spanish-for-beginners course presented by Yolanda Vázquez (r).
 - 5.40 *The Week in the Londe* with Christopher Jones.
 - 6.30 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 7.00 *Live from the Met*: Ariadne auf Naxos. Richard Strauss's one-act opera lives from the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, starring Jessye Norman, Kathleen Battle and Tatiana Troyanos. In the interval, at approximately 7.45, Andrew Porter, music critic of the New Yorker, talks about the current opera scene in New York. Simultaneous broadcast on stereo Radio 3.
 - 8.40 *The Film Club*. Peter Ustinov introduces the first two of four films by Max Ophüls beginning with *Lola Montès* (1955) starring Marlene Dietrich and Peter Ustinov. The life and times of a celebrated courtesan who numbered Franz Listz and the King of Bavaria among her lovers. Directed by Max Ophüls.
 - 11.30 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 11.55 *Film: The Burning Bed* (1984) starring Farrah Fawcett and John Cazale. A dramatic film about a woman accused of murdering her husband. Directed by Robert Greenwald.
 - 12.30 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 1.00 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- ITV/LONDON**
- 6.00 TV-am includes news.
 - 9.25 *773*. Children's entertainment 11.00 *Tamworth* (r). 11.30 *Roxy* — the Network Channel's first series for victims of racial harassment and a profile of a Sikh stable-lad.
 - 12.00 *Cricket*. Highlights of the second one-day game between New Zealand and England in Christchurch.
 - 1.00 *News with Fiona Armstrong*. 1.05 *LWT News* and weather followed by Saint and Gemini preview cup action from both sides of the border 1.35 *Wrestling* from the Gala Hall, West Bromwich.
 - 2.15 *Phase 5*. Vintage comedy series (r).
 - 2.45 *International Athletics*. The Kodak Classic between England and the United States at RAF Cottesloe.
 - 4.45 *Results service*. 5.00 *News 5.05 LWT News* and weather followed by A.L.F. Adventures of an alien life form loose in suburban America.
 - 5.35 *Connections*. Quiz game presented by Sue Robble.
 - 6.05 *Catchphrase*. Game show introduced by Roy Walker. (Oracle).
 - 6.35 *Bob's Denon's TV Weekly*. The guests include Tannia Alexander and Jack Hadley.
 - 7.05 *You Bet Bruce*. Forth offers members of the public unusual challenges.
 - 8.05 *Murder, She Wrote: The Bottom Line* in Murder. Jessica Hahn discusses the assistance of a friend arrested on a murder charge.
 - 9.00 *News and sport* 9.15 *LWT Weather*.
 - 9.30 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 10.30 *Aspel & Company*. Tonight Michael Aspel is joined by Paul Eddington, Denis Healey, Germaine Greer and Howard Kael.
 - 11.05 *Film: The Burning Bed* (1984) starring Farrah Fawcett and John Cazale. A dramatic film about a woman accused of murdering her husband. Directed by Robert Greenwald.
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 - 1.00 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- CHANNEL 4**
- 9.30 *Old Country* (r). 10.00 *News* (r).
 - 10.30 *Film: Robinson Crusoe on Mars* (1964) starring Paul Mantovani and Adam West. An astronaut is stranded on Mars where he meets a Martian Man Friday. Directed by Byron Haskin.
 - 12.30 *Empress Yu*. Episode 30 (of 85). 1.00 *Slime*. A cartoon series.
 - 1.35 *Channel 4 Racing* from Sandown Park. The 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45.
 - 2.10 *Film: The Story of Louis Pasteur* (1936, b/w) starring Paul Muni. A biopic about the later years of the celebrated French chemist. Directed by William Dieterle.
 - 4.45 *Film: Pandem My* (1987) starring the Three Stooges who are put in charge of a drug store that allegedly sells Scotch whisky. Directed by Del Lord.
 - 5.05 *Brookside* (r). (Oracle).
 - 6.00 *Right to Reply*. The Government's warning about AIDS is accused of being offensive and sexist; and C4's business programming comes under criticism.
 - 6.35 *British Eye*. Love, Sex and the City. A documentary about life in London.
 - 7.00 *News and sport* 7.15 *LWT Weather*.
 - 7.30 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
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 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- BBC1**
- 6.45 Open University.
 - 8.55 *Play School* 9.15 *Sunday Morning* with the Corpus Christi Justice and Peace group in Birken.
 - 10.00 *What on Earth...?* 10.25 *Telejournal* (r). 11.30 *France actualité* (r). 11.45 *España Viva*. Last in the series.
 - 12.10 *See Hear*. For the hearing impaired 12.35 *Farming* examines Britain's pot plant industry 12.55 *Weather*.
 - 1.00 *This Week Next* investigates the cost of the Government's policies and whether or not the country's economy can continue to improve 2.00 *EastEnders* (r). (Coefax).
 - 3.00 *Film: Double* (1958) starring John Mills and Cecil Parker. Second World War drama, based on a novel about a man who is accused of being a spy by having money in two places at the same time by means of a look-alike. Directed by John Gilling.
 - 4.35 *The Children's Princess*. With the Princess Royal as she tours Africa and Asia.
 - 5.05 *Film: Antiques Roadshow* from Maidenhead. (Coefax).
 - 6.15 *LifeLine*. Charity news and an appeal on behalf of the Talking Newspaper Association of the United Kingdom by Alan Titchmarsh.
 - 6.55 *News and sport* 7.00 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 7.15 *All Creatures Great and Small*. An old schoolfriend of Sophie's returns for a weekend and finds in love with rural life. (Coefax).
 - 8.10 *Whickler's World*. The best of ten films in which Alan Whickler, a British who had made new lives for themselves in Australia. (Coefax).
 - 9.00 *News and sport* 9.15 *LWT Weather*.
 - 9.30 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
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 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- BBC2**
- 6.50 Open University. Until 1.05.
 - 1.10 *Monday Purple*. A series of Engagements (r). (Coefax).
 - 2.00 *Rugby Special*. Highlights of Lancashire v Gloucester, Massing v North.
 - 3.00 *World News*. The final of the Embassy World Indoor Championship, introduced by David Icke.
 - 4.35 *Music in Camera*. The Royal Gala Opening. The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama's gala celebrating the official opening of their new Glasgow home by the Queen Mother last Wednesday.
 - 5.15 *Review*. Kate Kellaway reviews Tom Stoppard's new play *Happo*. (Coefax).
 - 6.00 *Film: Double* (1958) starring John Mills and Cecil Parker. Second World War drama, based on a novel about a man who is accused of being a spy by having money in two places at the same time by means of a look-alike. Directed by John Gilling.
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 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- ITV/LONDON**
- 6.50 TV-am.
 - 9.30 *Prost on Sunday* includes an interview with American presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson.
 - 9.55 *Wake Up London* 9.55 *Frangible Rock* 10.00 *773*. Children's entertainment 10.30 *Film: The Story of Louis Pasteur* (1936, b/w) starring Paul Muni. A biopic about the later years of the celebrated French chemist. Directed by William Dieterle.
 - 11.00 *Morning Worship* from Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, Glasgow.
 - 12.00 *Weekend World*. How far can the Chancellor go in cutting interest? 1.00 *LWT News* and weather followed by Saint and Gemini preview cup action from both sides of the border 1.35 *Wrestling* from the Gala Hall, West Bromwich.
 - 2.15 *Phase 5*. Vintage comedy series (r).
 - 2.45 *International Athletics*. The Kodak Classic between England and the United States at RAF Cottesloe.
 - 4.45 *Results service*. 5.00 *News 5.05 LWT News* and weather followed by A.L.F. Adventures of an alien life form loose in suburban America.
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 - 6.05 *Catchphrase*. Game show introduced by Roy Walker. (Oracle).
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 - 1.00 *News with Moira Stuart*. The latest news and sport. Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with Moira Stuart.
 - 1.30am *Weather*.

- CHANNEL 4**
- 9.35 *Movie Mahal* (colour and b/w). Part 26 (of 27) of the *Weekend World*. Does Tibet pose a problem for China? and Mike Espy, the first black Congressman to be elected in Mississippi since the American Civil War, talks about Jesse Jackson's performance on 'Super Tuesday'.
 - 11.00 *News*. Ben Keaton with the story of *Samuel's Strange Encounter*.
 - 11.15 *Helping Henry* 11.30 *The World This Week* presented by Gaz Top.
 - 1.30 *Lost in Space* (b/w). Vintage science fiction series.
 - 2.30 *Film: The Star Maker* (1939, b/w) starring Bing Crosby and Louise Campbell. Musical comedy about a penniless songwriter and his wife. Directed by Roy del Ruth.
 - 4.15 *Film: The First Days* (1935, b/w). An impressionistic account of the first days of the Second World War. Directed by Humphrey Jennings, Harry Watt and Pat Jackson.
 - 4.40 *Gallery*. Art quiz chaired by George Melly.
 - 5.10 *News summary* and weather.
 - 5.15 *The Business*. Programme. A Budget special including interviews with the Shadow Chancellor John Smith and the director-general of the Institute of Directors, Sir John Hoskyns.
 - 6.00 *International*. The British Airways Masters.
 - 7.15 *Path of the Rain God*. The wildlife of Belize. (Oracle).
 - 8.15 *The Stocks and Bonds*. (Oracle).
 - 8.45 *The Modern World*. Two Great Willms. Franz Kafka and his novel *The Trial*. Starring Tim Birt.
 - 9.55 *Film: The Far Country* (1955) starring James Stewart and Ruth Roman. Western adventure about an oilman and his partner who are driving a herd of cattle from Wyoming to the Alaska goldfields. Directed by Anthony Mann.
 - 11.45 *Film: The Hard* (1978) starring Teri Hatcher and Melina Deming. A drama about the feud between two Anatolian nomad families. Directed by Zeki Oksun. Subtitled. Ends at 2.00am.

- Radio 1**
- MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see below). News on the hour until 12.30pm, then at 2.00, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight.
 - 6.00 *News* 6.15 *Nicky Campbell* 6.30 *Adrian John* 10.00 *Mike Read* (from the ideal Home Exhibition) 1.00 *pm* *Adrian John* 2.00 *The Stereo Service*. Includes 2.00 *News* 2.15 *John Peel* in Russia 4.00-5.00 *The American Chart Show* (Laura Gross reporting) 6.30-7.30 *In Concert* (featuring *Acid* and *Robbie Vincent*) 10.00-12.00 *Mark Goodier*. FM Stereo Radios 1 and 2: 4.00 am As Radio 2 1.00 pm As Radio 1 7.30-9.00 am As Radio 2.

- Radio 2**
- MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see below). News on the hour until 1.00 pm, then at 3.00, 6.00, 7.00 and hourly from 10.00.
 - 6.00 *News* 6.15 *Nicky Campbell* 6.30 *Adrian John* 10.00 *Mike Read* (from the ideal Home Exhibition) 1.00 *pm* *Adrian John* 2.00 *The Stereo Service*. Includes 2.00 *News* 2.15 *John Peel* in Russia 4.00-5.00 *The American Chart Show* (Laura Gross reporting) 6.30-7.30 *In Concert* (featuring *Acid* and *Robbie Vincent*) 10.00-12.00 *Mark Goodier*. FM Stereo Radios 1 and 2: 4.00 am As Radio 2 1.00 pm As Radio 1 7.30-9.00 am As Radio 2.

- Radio 3**
- 6.35 Open University: *Baroque*, Tippett's *Siring* Quartet No 4 (Lindsay).
 - 7.00 *News* 7.15 *Robert Hewison* in an arts (b/w). (Vernon PO) 7.30 *News*.
 - 7.35 *Concert* (cont): *Bortnyansky* (The Falcon Overture). Includes 7.45 *News* 7.55 *Concert*. Includes 8.00 *News* 8.15 *Concert*. Includes 8.30 *News* 8.45 *Concert*. Includes 8.55 *News* 9.05 *Concert*. Includes 9.15 *News* 9.25 *Concert*. Includes 9.35 *News* 9.45 *Concert*. Includes 9.55 *News* 10.05 *Concert*. Includes 10.15 *News* 10.25 *Concert*. Includes 10.35 *News* 10.45 *Concert*. Includes 10.55 *News* 11.05 *Concert*. Includes 11.15 *News* 11.25 *Concert*. Includes 11.35 *News* 11.45 *Concert*. Includes 11.55 *News* 12.05 *Concert*. Includes 12.15 *News* 12.25 *Concert*. Includes 12.35 *News* 12.45 *Concert*. Includes 12.55 *News* 1.05 *Concert*. Includes 1.15 *News* 1.25 *Concert*. Includes 1.35 *News* 1.45 *Concert*. Includes 1.55 *News* 2.05 *Concert*. Includes 2.15 *News* 2.25 *Concert*. Includes 2.35 *News* 2.45 *Concert*. Includes 2.55 *News* 3.05 *Concert*. Includes 3.15 *News* 3.25 *Concert*. Includes 3.35 *News* 3.45 *Concert*. 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Grief after 'horror of those terrifying seconds'

Continued from page 1

were reunited with Mrs Lindsay in private.

Major Lindsay's coffin, draped in the Union Flag, was lowered gently from the aircraft's rear door on to eight broad shoulders of the bearer party. As they paced the 139 slow, measured steps to the waiting hearse, a brief and fierce burst of sun lit the scene.

The royal party emerged from the lounge to watch the coffin pass. Mrs Lindsay, erect and composed, stood between the Princess and the Duchess. The Princess briefly held her hand. The Prince stood at motionless attention beside them, his face betraying little but sorrow. All four briefly bowed as the coffin passed.

Prince Charles has already given a statement to police, and permission was given for Major Lindsay's body to be flown back with the rest of the party in the BAe146 of the Queen's Flight to England.

Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson's condition was said yesterday to be satisfactory, and Prince Charles's spokesman, Mr Philip Mackie, said that the Prince spent three hours with her yesterday morning.

She was sitting up in bed, and able to converse. There has been a successful preliminary operation on her legs at the intensive care unit in the Daves hospital. The hospital said that a collapse of her left lung has been treated and she was in "fine spirits".

before them. Mrs Lindsay kept her hands clasped in front of her.

As the hearse drove away, the Princess led Mrs Lindsay back into the lounge, and the Prince and Duchess followed. Soon afterwards Mrs Lindsay left with her father and brother-in-law in a beige Rover.

The Prince left several minutes later in his blue Bentley accompanied by police outriders, and the Princess and Duchess followed in a Jaguar.

The royal party's destination was not known, but it is almost certain that they would have visited the Queen, who is at Windsor for the weekend, before travelling on to their own weekend home at Highgrove in Gloucestershire.

Buckingham Palace declined, at the request of Major Lindsay's family, to say where the coffin was being taken, but it is known that the family intend to hold a private funeral service in Devon, for which arrangements were still being finalized yesterday.

Canon Kenneth Parry, local vicar at Major Lindsay's mother's home at Budleigh Salterton, said yesterday that a service would probably be held at Exeter Cathedral, followed by a memorial service at a later date in London.

Major Lindsay's death is the second tragedy to hit the family in less than a year. Last May his aunt Viola, Dowager Duchess of Westminster, was killed in a car crash in Ireland.

The Hon Mrs Audrey Lindsay, the dead man's mother, said yesterday that the Prince of Wales should not bear guilt for the tragedy. "I don't attach any blame to anybody. It was an unfortunate accident. For Prince Charles to blame himself is not justified," she told a relative.

It is nevertheless becoming clear, according to reports from Klostern, that the Prince was in charge of the party, and that it was his decision to tackle the exceedingly dangerous slopes of the Haglamante.

The Prince is a highly accomplished skier, having learned at the hands of Swiss and German instructors from the age of 16 when he was at Gordonstoun. This was his tenth visit to Klostern, and he has on many occasions tackled the frightening slope of the Gotschnawang, regarded as one of the most testing and terrifying descents anywhere in Europe.

Leading article, page 9

'Whole mountainside seemed to hurtle past'

Continued from page 1

I skied down and just arrived as Herr Sprecher had reached Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson's head. He gave her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and revived her. He gave me the shovel to dig her out and I tried using my hands as well.

At this point I sat with Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson while he quickly went to try and locate Major Lindsay. He found him about 15 yards above Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson but tragically he had been killed outright from the fall despite

Herr Sprecher's valiant attempts to revive him.

I stayed with Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson talking to her all the time to try and encourage her to point out the extent of her injuries. I would like to stress that Herr Sprecher behaved throughout in a most exemplary fashion and was instrumental in saving Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson's life.

Not only is he a friend of mine but by the way in which he operated he did honour to the noble profession of which he is a member. We shall always be grateful to him.



Mrs Sarah Lindsay, widow of Major Hugh Lindsay, who was killed in the avalanche at Klostern, on Thursday, leaving her home yesterday, and Mr Charles Palmer-Tomkinson, whose wife, Patti, suffered two broken legs in the same incident.

Shamir attacks Shultz on eve of talks

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday rejected new American Middle East peace proposals as he prepared to fly to Washington for talks on the initiative.

He accused Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, of "backtracking", "carrying favour with the Arabs", and producing a "bad proposal which contains a very exaggerated consideration of too many elements".

He told the newspaper *Haaretz*: "The only word with which I agree in the US plan is the name Shultz."

practical purposes, the Americans did not explain the reasons for it," Mr Shamir told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Last October, he said, Mr Shultz had agreed to a conference at which only the two superpowers would invite the different sides for talks. There was "a vast gulf" between that approach and the conference now being suggested by Mr Shultz, which "will not bring peace any closer but which will serve as a means for exerting pressure on Israel".

Interviews show that Mr Shamir also objects to the suggestion that the Camp David peace accord, and to the "land for peace" concept.

"The Arabs' basic demand is the return of all the territories of the Land of Israel," he told the *Jerusalem Post*.

"We must demand of Arab countries the far-reaching change in this sphere and, at the same time, reserve very substantial security margins. We must not endanger the existence of the state."

Mr Shamir, who leaves for Washington tomorrow, said he hoped he could persuade Mr Shultz to change his proposals, but that if he failed it did not necessarily mean an early election. There was only a small difference between a possible date for an early election and the fixed date on November 1.

In a radio interview yesterday, Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader and Foreign Minister, said: "The problem does not at all concern maps, borders, or pressure from Washington. We are facing a dilemma in Jerusalem... Two balanced opinions exist and

Mr Shamir must decide whether he is going on behalf of one of those positions, or whether he is seeking a way to reach a consensus..."

"There is no point in going to Washington to say you will not negotiate, you will not pressure me," he said.

Mr Shamir has said that he will not give a decision while he is in Washington, and seems to be hoping the initiative will instead be rejected by the Arab side.

Meanwhile, at least 60 of Israel's Arab policemen, who are crucially important in controlling the occupied territories and East Jerusalem, have resigned. The underground leadership of the current unrest had called on them to resign, "to return to the ranks of the people, otherwise they will have no place on our land".

Helicopter tragedy Crash kills Duke of York's pupils

By David Sapsted

A two-man helicopter crew undergoing instruction by the Duke of York have been killed in a crash off the Portuguese coast, the Ministry of Defence disclosed yesterday.

The Duke looked on as the bodies of the pilot and observer were recovered after the accident on Thursday, a few hours after the Prince of Wales narrowly escaped a Swiss avalanche that killed his close friend, Major Hugh Lindsay.

A board of inquiry was set up by the Ministry of Defence yesterday to discover why the Lynx helicopter crashed into the sea three quarters of a mile from its ship, about 50 miles north-west of Lisbon at 9.30pm.

The dead men, Lieutenant Commander Anthony Davies, the pilot, aged 37, from Barry, Glamorgan, and his observer, Acting Sub-Lieutenant Richard Cawthorne, aged 23, from

Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, were on attachment to 702 Squadron at Portland, where the Duke of York is a helicopter warfare instructor. Neither of the dead men were married.

All three had been aboard the Royal Fleet Auxiliary *Engadine*, an aviation training ship on which Lt Cdr Davies was undergoing a conversion course, and the Duke was teaching tactics. On May 10, he is scheduled to join the crew of *HMS Edinburgh*, a Type 42 destroyer, to gain his watch-keeping and ocean navigation certificates.

Space deal

Delhi (AFP) — India is paying the Soviet Union more than £3 million for the launch of a remote sensing satellite next Thursday becoming the first country to use Moscow's commercial launch service.

BAe 'near' to £100m plane deal

From David Watts

British Aerospace hopes to sign, by the end of next week, a £100 million contract with a Japanese airline for 10 BAe 146 short-haul airliners, Professor Roland Smith, the BAe chairman, said yesterday.

Prof. Smith declined to name the airline, but industry sources said All Nippon Airways and Toa Domestic Airlines had been in discussions with BAe.

"It would be a major breakthrough," Prof. Smith said. "I estimate the market in Japan to be about £1 billion."

Industry sources believe that a reasonable sales target for BAe to aim at in the Japanese market would be 60 of the aircraft.

Prof. Smith also said that BAe was confident it would, over the Rover Group by May 1, but he was expecting a "good deal" from the Government in writing off the car company's existing debts.

Prof. Smith, who had a meeting at the British Embassy in Tokyo with Mr Tadashi Kamei, the president of Honda, the Japanese car-maker, Lord Young of Grahamam, the Trade and Industry Secretary, and Mr Graham Day, the Rover chairman, later said on radio that they had a "pleasant and constructive exchange of views".

Job losses, page 2

Honda assured, page 25

Chicago relishes its role

Continued from page 1

ideological confidence. Or is he in with the trade unions and high-minded interest groups, and saddled with the foreign policy which enabled the nominee of 1972, Mr McGovern, to lose every state except liberal Massachusetts — Mr Dukakis?

We never did find out about Mr Dukakis. Wisely, he confined himself to such observations as: "The best of America is not behind us. The best of America is yet to come."

Only Mr Jackson had the oratorical power to still the chatter from the rows of tables entirely.

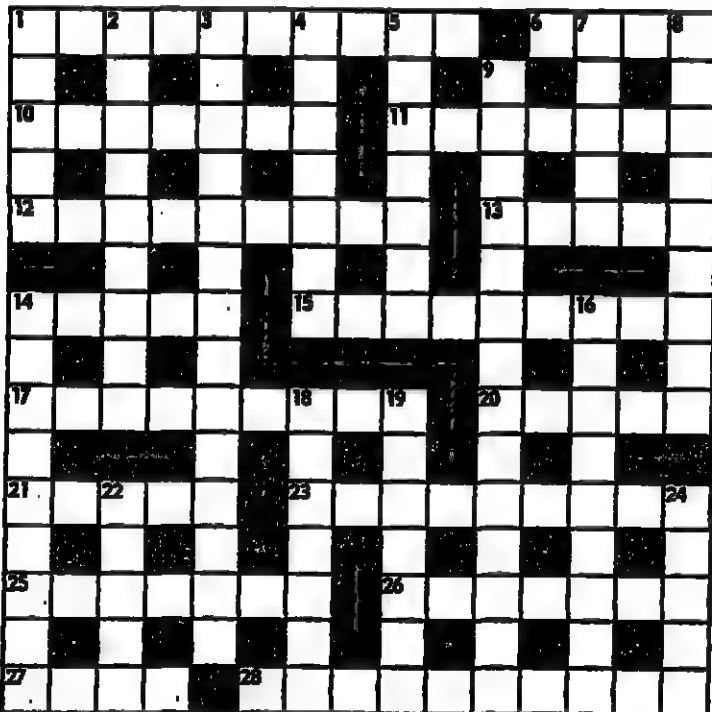
No one clicked so much as a desert spoon as he ruminatively spoke of how, 23 years to the day before his triumph on Super Tuesday, he and other blacks had been beaten by police as they marched in Alabama for the right to vote.

"They're mesmerized by him," I muttered in awe. "And terrified." *The Washington Post* muttered back.

After Mr Jackson's soaring imagery about blood and people being hit with cattle prods, all Mr Gephardt could offer was mention of trade policy and corn subsidies.

And by the time Mr Gore got going on the need for "leadership", the Illinoisans were making for the exits.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,615



- ACROSS**
- Chopped pear in fresh soft cheese (10).
 - Mild, perhaps, this part of Devon (4).
 - Saw dog's name inside lead (7).
 - Unvarying habit? (7).
 - Learn about Toad's accident in main lay-by (9).
 - Some uses of Israel emit this fragrant resin (5).
 - Coming before a superior (5).
 - Game target of a river authority (9).
 - Hurricane, for example, engulfs soldiers in cargo ship (9).
 - Line right for a fast cycle? (5).
 - Texan mission fashionable, mostly (5).
 - Contents of The Old Curiosity Shop translated into French (4-1-4).
 - Monied sort caught like one possessed (7).
 - East Judean procurator to remove sideboard (7).
 - Routine hospital meeting for this girl (4).
 - He was in a rush to strike in America (5-5).
- DOWN**
- Spring shrub (5).
 - Summoning up energy to take a dressing case, say (9).
 - Fair location for gladness on earth (8-6).
 - Multiply without going forth? (7).
 - Illegally transfer money in Arundel exchange (7).
 - Run off irregularly with sweetheart (5).
 - Jogger admits a rest is needed here (9).
 - I'm in skateboard mishap coming down gangway (14).
 - Inflation could make this a dangerous summer (4-5).
 - Cartesian formula to learn surely (9).
 - Robert Burton's superb excellent drawing material? (7).
 - Clothing design torn outside (7).
 - Own commercial with foreign support (5).
 - Make a profit with no trouble (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,614

JAPANESE HUSBAND
SYNDROME RUSSIA
T D S P C A T Q
EXILE FOOTLOOSE
R T R O N W L
S M E L I E R T
CROSSCOUNTRY
O U W G A W
LINEAMENT ENQUE
T G R O A P I
ISATIN SWANKING
N I L E T R H
GINGER PROSPECT

Solution to Puzzle No 17,609

DISCOUR CODENAME
D A R H O Q E
RESTRAINOR BORE
A A M I N L R
CLEMATIS CREDIT
A V T A N
A V E R O B S E R V E R
B A P T I S M
BRANDISH ACTS
P E S E
CASTLE RINGTRUE
T I E W I R P
KING MARCHESSE
L E I E K E E
TERRAPIN SAFETY

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- CIQUETTES**
a. Leg-holes
b. Castanets
c. A turnstile
- INFUCATION**
a. Sucking fish
b. Graffiti
c. Making up
- JIGGLE**
a. Sexual exploitation
b. Anticlockwise screwdriver
c. A confidence trick
- AVIFAUNA**
a. Flying mammals
b. The birds of a region
c. Non-flying birds

Answers on page 22, column 1

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 406, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr J. Grimes, Saddlehorn Rd, Kings Lynn, Norfolk; Mr R. Holmes, Keels Lynn, Norfolk; Mr A. E. Pearson, Wearie Gifford, Thorpe Bay, Essex; A. D. Scott, Whitehaven Gains, Didbury, Manchester; Ms E. Thorson, Radcliff Hill, Chesfield, Whitstable, Kent.

Concise crossword, page 21

WEATHER Scotland will have sunshine and showers falling as sleet and snow, especially over mountains. Border regions and northern England will start cloudy with some rain, sleet and snow. South Wales and south-west England will be mainly dry with sunny spells. Northern Ireland and the rest of England and Wales will be cloudy with some rain and a few bright spells. Outlook: sunny spells and showers over Scotland. Mainly cloudy elsewhere with outbreaks of rain.

ABROAD

AROUND BRITAIN

MMDDAY: t=temperature; c=dewpoint; w=wind; s=sun
b=cloud; r=rain; f=fog; c=cloud; s=sun

Albacore	C	55	Madrid	C	15
Algeria	C	55	Malta	C	14
Amman	C	16	Moscow	C	15
Amman	C	16	Moscow	C	15
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Amman	C	16	Moscow	C	15
Amman	C	16	Moscow		

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1449.9 (-22.4)
FT-SE 100
1811.6 (-23.0)

Bargains
29874 (28632)

USM (Datastream)
149.43 (-0.51)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8535 (+0.0100)

W German mark
3.0796 (+0.0120)

Trade-weighted
77.4 (+0.3)

Koppers
sues
Beazer

Koppers Inc, the US aggregates company, has filed a suit in a Pittsburgh court in an attempt to fight off the takeover bid by Beazer, the British building materials and construction group.

Koppers charges Beazer and Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc with violations of Federal securities laws and claims damages for losses from purchases of its own stock for employee benefit plans, alleging that the price it paid for the stock was "artificially inflated and manipulated" by the defendants' actions.

A group led by Beazer and Shearson Lehman Hutton made a \$45-a-share tender offer for Koppers, valuing the company at \$1.27 billion (£686 million).

Koppers is asking the court to bar the group from buying its stock, making a tender offer to shareholders or otherwise trying to control Koppers without adequate disclosure.

Dobson offer

Dobson Park International has raised its bid for MS International by about £10 million to £33 million, and snapped up about 17 per cent of the MS equity in the stock market. The 130p-a-share revised cash offer, declared final, is rejected by MS.

De Beers rise

De Beers Consolidated Mines is raising the final dividend from 60 South African cents to 82.5 cents, making a 1987 payment of 110 cents (80 cents) a share, after reporting record attributable profits of R1.03 billion (£2.63 billion).

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2008.30 (-19.73)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	25543.73 (-74.09)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2556.45 (+4.11)
Amsterdam	Gen	241.1 (-2.5)
Sydney	AO	1354.8 (-4.8)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	1392.1 (-10.3)
General		4818.5 (-97.1)
Paris	CAC	294.8 (-5.2)
Zurich	S&K Gen	458.4 (-5.9)
London	FT-A All-Share	930.1 (-10.07)
FT-30		1449.9 (-22.4)
FT-SE 100		1811.6 (-23.0)
FT-100		245.4 (-1.1)
FT-100		97.29 (-0.15)
FT-100		90.47 (-0.06)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS:		
Standard Chart	473p (+20p)	
Greenall Whiteley	221p (+15p)	
Parrish	250p (+15p)	
MS International	125p (+15p)	
Lookers	180p (+15p)	
Ranger	255p (+20p)	
Esperion Trust	225p (+17p)	
West & Country	162p (+15p)	
Centenary	182p (+10p)	
FALLS:		
Brecon	275p (-15p)	
Body Shop	570p (-15p)	
Coats Vytilla	241p (-16p)	
TI Group	325p (-14p)	
Routledge	325p (-16p)	
Beecham	475p (-15p)	
Lucas	821p (-23p)	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
3-month interbank B/L	8 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	8 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	8 1/2%
Federal Funds	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.74-5.72%
30-year bonds	104-104 1/2

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£1.8535	\$1.8535
DMG.0796	\$1.8535
£1.8535	\$1.8535
FF110.4630	FF5.8490
Yen235.95	Yen127.50
Index:77.4	Index:93.3
ECU £0.672711	SDR £0.744824

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$444.10 PM \$441.80	
close \$440.75-441.25	(£237.75-238.25)
New York:	
Comex \$441.10-441.60	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr.)	pm \$14.90bbl (\$14.57)
Denotes latest trading price	
Bus Roundup	26
Money Mkts	28
Stock Market	28
Wall Street	28
Traded Opts	26
Commodities	28
Knights Fleet	27
USM Prices	28
Temps	27
Share Prices	29

Willis Faber
chief resigns
Deputy chairman latest
in spate of departures

By Alison Eadie

Mr David Rowland, whose Stewart Wrightson group merged with fellow insurance broker Willis Faber last summer, has resigned as deputy chairman of the enlarged Willis to become chief executive of Sedgwick, Britain's largest insurance broker.

Mr Rowland's surprise move comes after a spate of departures by former Stewart Wrightson staff in what has proved to be a bloody merger, despite its friendly intent.

Mr David Palmer, the Willis Faber chairman, said the parting was amicable and Mr Rowland left with the board's goodwill.

Mr Palmer also announced that Mr Roger Elliott, a respected broker who has spent his entire working life at Willis, will succeed him as chairman when he retires at the end of October. Mr Elliott, aged 55, is a deputy chairman of Willis and has worked in marine, non-marine and aviation markets.

Mr Rowland said he did not wish to discuss the Willis Faber situation, but admitted that the merger had started with high hopes and run into some problems. At the time of the merger, it was expected

that Mr Rowland would succeed Mr Palmer as chairman. Mr Rowland declined to comment on speculation that his reason for leaving was that he was no longer likely to become chairman. He said he was delighted to be joining Sedgwick.

Mr Palmer said there had been more defections than he would have liked, but he insisted that the merger was working. The defections, counting Mr Rowland, include five Wrightson directors, its company secretary, the North American development division of 20 staff, and the entire Nicholson Stewart Wrightson subsidiary.

Mr Palmer said the rationale of the merger - to join up Willis's wholesale business with Wrightson's retail business - made even more sense in today's difficult markets. He added that enormous economies were being achieved, particularly on staff, where 400 jobs had been shed mainly by natural wastage, and on rent through the merging of premises.

Willis does not expect to suffer any more staff departures as a result of Mr Rowland's leaving and said it was

very sensitive to the potential uncase of the remaining former Wrightson employees.

News of the reshuffle left Willis shares unchanged at 218p, but Sedgwick's were 8p higher at 213p.

There has been speculation for several months over the succession at Sedgwick, with Mr Carel Mosselmann, the chairman, due to retire in April next year. Mr Mosselmann said the team was now in place for the next decade.

Mr Rowland would not be drawn on whether he was likely to succeed Mr Mosselmann as chairman.

Mr Rowland has his work cut out for him at Sedgwick, which last month announced a 25 per cent drop in pretax profits in 1987 to £101 million. Profits this year are expected to plunge to about £50 million, due to the twin effects of dramatic rate-cutting in America and the weakening dollar.

Sedgwick has embarked on a stringent programme of cost-cutting, including staff reductions, moving back-office operations out of London and amalgamating a dining-room for senior executives into the general canteen.

Pre-Budget boost in confidence

Two-year
highs for
sterling

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

The pound rose to two-year highs against the mark and the dollar yesterday, as dealers switched from dollar stock before next Thursday's US trade figures.

The Bank of England's sterling index ended 0.3 up at 77.4, its highest level since January 1986. Sterling regained the pence it lost on Thursday to DM3.0796 and closed against the dollar a cent higher at \$1.8535.

On the stock market, fears about the effects of a higher exchange rate caused a bout of profit-taking in the afternoon as the pre-Budget rally fizzled out. The FT-SE 100 share index ended 23 points down at 1811.6 after touching 1,806.

In the money markets, the top discount rate at the weekly Treasury Bill auction fell from 8.8 to 8.6 per cent.

Payments deficit
revised to £1.68bn

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Britain's balance of payments deficit last year was more than £1 billion less than first estimated. An upward revision of the surplus on invisible trade has cut the deficit from an initial figure of £2.69 billion to £1.68 billion.

The news helped to allay fears raised by January's record deficit of £905 million for a single month. Although the better outcome will not alter decisions on the Budget at this late stage, it may help to improve market confidence before it.

The new estimates of invisibles have also improved the 1986 figures by £1 billion. Instead of a £944 million deficit, there is now thought to have been a £46 million surplus.

The revisions come primarily in two places. Estimates of British insurance companies'

overseas earnings on underwriting have been altered to reflect the latest annual inquiry and corrections by the industry.

Secondly, interest and capital flows between British residents and banks overseas have been revised on more comprehensive information from the International Monetary Fund and an improved method of estimating interest receipts and payments.

Despite the upward revisions, invisible earnings are thought to have fallen slightly between 1986 and 1987, mainly as a result of a recovery from the abnormally low level of EEC payments during 1986.

During the last quarter of 1987, the invisibles' contribution declined from £2.21 billion to £1.71 billion, but officials said this did not necessarily show a downward trend.

Whitbread buys off-licences

By Alison Eadie

Seagram Distillers, the Canadian drinks group, has sold 81 Gough Brothers off-licence shops to Whitbread, the British brewing group. The price was not disclosed, but stockbroking analysts estimated it to be between £10 million and £15 million.

The combination of the Gough shops with Whitbread's Thresher off-licences will create a chain of 970 outlets, making it the largest chain of off-licences in Britain. The Victoria Wine chain, owned by Allied-Lyons, runs a close second with about 960 outlets.

Grand Metropolitan has about 850 off-licences through its Peter Dominick and Roberts & Cooper chains and Bass has about 700 Augustus Barnett off-licences.

The Gough sites are mainly in the South-east with 45 in Greater London. Mr Malcolm Burr, director of external affairs at Whitbread, said there was almost no overlap between the new shops and existing Thresher sites. Whitbread intends to continue to expand the Thresher chain to 1,000 or more outlets.

Seagram said the sale of Goughs would enable it to

focus its resources on Oddbins, which has great potential for further development. Seagram has expanded Oddbins to 136 outlets from 57 when it bought the chain in 1984. Oddbins concentrates on premium products such as de luxe whiskies, ports and champagnes as well as wines, while Gough concentrates on beers and lagers.

Seagram's brand names include Chivas Regal scotch whisky and Mumm's champagne. It has just bought Martell, the cognac producer in France, after a bitter battle with Grand Metropolitan.

Survey points to advantages of working abroad

Go West, and East, young man

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The expatriate Briton would find his pay cheque growing by leaps and bounds should he decide to live and work in Japan. The Japanese equivalent of a British salary of £16,370, after tax, is no less than £49,948, or 305 per cent of the UK salary.

However, after taking account of the cost of living in Japan, that salary would slip to only 169 per cent of the British figure, which makes the Land of the Rising Sun the fifth-most financially desirable place in the world for the globetrotting Briton.

These facts emerge from a report by P-E Inbucon, the consultants and survey specialists.

The reports says that, once the cost of living has been taken into account, Egypt appears to be the best place for British expatriates. There, the local salary is equivalent to 307 per cent of the British figure. The next most attractive country is Saudi Arabia (239 per cent), followed by Mexico (219 per cent) and Kenya (184 per cent).

The United States stood at 163 per cent of the British salary, while in Australia the figure is 139 per cent.

SALARIES

How the cost of living (based on % UK net salary) compares with take home pay around the world.

Country	Pay £	Cost %
UK	16,370	100
Kenya	24,040	184
South Africa	16,217	133
Egypt	29,341	307
Saudi Arabia	33,159	239
US (NY)	29,201	163
Mexico	21,341	119
Japan	49,948	305
Australia	18,421	139

British level. There, the after-tax salary of £16,370 is equivalent to a take-home total of £16,217. But after taking the cost of living into account, South Africa provided more value for money, at 133 per cent when compared with costs in this country.

According to the survey, working abroad still provides the opportunity for Britons to earn, and save, more money, even when local taxes have to be paid.

The survey compared the equivalent salaries in 45 countries, and expatriates employed by British multinational companies across a broad spectrum of

industry and commerce, including financial services, were polled. The eight countries whose details have been released were representative of all the countries covered in the survey.

A wide range of salaries was researched, and a baseline established of a British salary of £22,000. This would mean a take-home amount of £16,370 for a married man with two children.

The survey says: "It shows that working in the Middle East is still attractive, at least in money terms, and working in more exotic places such as Kenya, Mexico and Egypt provides a substantial uplift on the UK net salary."

But there are other benefits for expatriates to look forward to. "They," P-E Inbucon says, "put typical UK fringe benefits to shame."

For the worker abroad the most common perks are accommodation, air tickets, medical insurance and educational allowances.

Of the eight countries in the P-E Inbucon sample, accommodation was provided in Kenya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Mexico and Japan.

P-E Inbucon 1988 Survey of Expatriate Salaries: £350 from P-E Inbucon, Park House, Wick Road, Egham, Surrey TW20 0HW.



Remanded on bail: Lord Spens at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday (Photograph: James Gray)

Spens freed on
£500,000 bail
until April 12

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Lord Spens, the former merchant banker facing four charges brought by detectives investigating the Guinness affair, was yesterday remanded on bail of £500,000 at Bow Street Magistrates' Court.

He is to appear again next month with four other City figures accused of charges connected with the Guinness affair, including Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chief executive of Guinness, and Mr Gerald Ronson, head of the Heron Corporation.

Lord Spens, a former managing director of Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank, is charged with four counts involving the purchase of more than 2 million Guinness shares.

He faces two counts under the Companies Act, one alleged offence under the Theft Act and an alleged breach of common law.

Lord Spens was bailed after two businessmen linked with the Conservative Party each gave sureties of £250,000.

The sureties were identified by Mr Nicholas Somper, one of Lord Spens's business associates, as Mr Charles Longbottom, a former Conser-

vative MP for York and ex-chairman of a company called Seascope, part of the Henry Ansbacher group, and Mr Alan Lewis, head of a Yorkshire textile company noted for Crombie materials.

Before the last election Mr Lewis was a fund raiser for the Conservative Party. The two men were described as friends of Lord Spens.

During the hearing, Lord Spens, aged 45, was given bail on condition that he did not contact anyone working for Henry Ansbacher, told police of any plans to change his address, surrendered his passport to police and did not apply for another one.

The passport would be returned if Lord Spens, a financial consultant from Frittenden, Kent, gave 24-hours' notice of his plans, plus an itinerary, and returned the passport within 24 hours of coming back.

During the five-minute hearing, Miss Elizabeth Glover, counsel for the Crown Prosecution Service, asked for a remand until April 12, which she said was the remand date for the other four accused in the Guinness investigations.

Further arrests 'virtually certain'

By Richard Thomson

Sources close to the Guinness investigation yesterday did not rule out the possibility of further arrests relating to Lord Spens's part in the brewing company's takeover of Distillers in 1986.

The sources also made clear that further arrests related to other aspects of the Guinness investigation were virtually certain, although none was likely in the near future.

There was also speculation that the Fraud Squad was on

the trail of the Henry Ansbacher client or clients who bought 2.15 million Guinness shares through an arrangement by Lord Spens. The shares, worth £7.6 million, were purchased at the height of the Guinness bid for Distillers, and later bought back from the Ansbacher clients.

The identity of the client or clients has never been revealed, although it is assumed that the police have known it for some time. The charges

against Lord Spens refer to the purchase of the shares as "a person," suggesting only one client was involved.

Lord Spens was yesterday forbidden to contact any employees of Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank from which he resigned last year, as part of his bail conditions. He left Ansbacher at the prompting of the Bank of England after it emerged that he had been responsible for arranging the purchase of the 2.15

million Guinness shares contrary to the instructions of his chief executive, Mr Richard Fenhalls.

When Mr Fenhalls discovered that the purchase had gone ahead without his agreement, he reported the matter to the Department of Trade and Industry. This led to a widening of the Guinness investigation and the unravelling of a crucial part of the dealings in Guinness shares during its bid for Distillers.

Kuwaitis
to take BP
shares for
a dividend

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The Kuwaiti government has taken its holding in BP above 21 per cent and is poised to raise it to 22.5 per cent by accepting shares instead of the dividend payments for which it qualifies next month.

The Kuwaitis are entitled to dividend payments of just under £10 million from the 1 billion shares it held in BP before March 4.

Shareholders have the alternative this year of taking their dividend in shares in the company and it is understood that the Kuwaiti government will do so.

The Kuwait Investment Office, which handles the buying and selling of shares for the government, yesterday broke its traditional silence and said it will stop investing in BP when its holding reaches 22.5 per cent.

Mr Trevor Ball, chief investment manager of the Kuwait Investment Office, said yesterday Kuwait would not seek a seat on the BP board and did not see its investment as a means of influencing BP.

Kuwait picked up its holding for just under £1 billion because of the British Government's decision to sell its 31.5 per cent holding last autumn as the stock market collapsed.

Honda assured over Rover

From David Watts, Tokyo

minute session with Mr Kume and Professor Roland Smith of British Aerospace as a "courtesy meeting." Lord Young added: "There was nothing substantive and there was no reason for anything substantive."

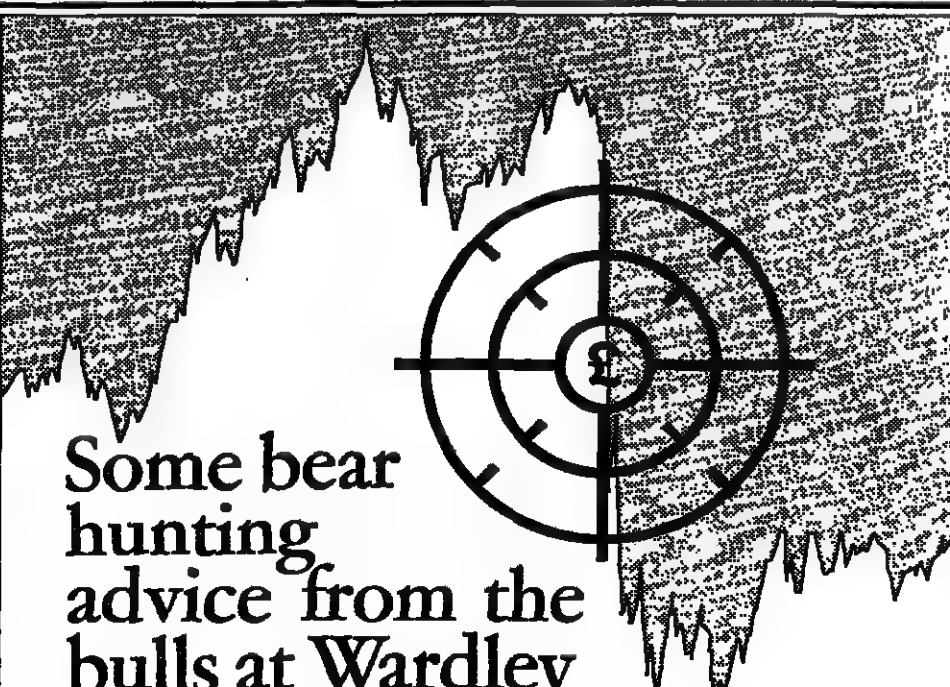
According to Mr Day, the only reference to a possible tie-up in the aviation field came when Mr Kume said he would like to visit the Farnborough Air Show. But Prof Smith hinted at a later collaborative arrangement: "Clearly we are very concerned about sales in Japan, and the more friends we have in Japan the more likely we are to be successful," he said.

Lord Young said he did not

believe there would be any problem with the European Economic Community over the British Aerospace requirement that it take over a company free of its historic debts and with another £400 million or so to see it through the initial period.

"The company must be able to stand on its own feet," he said. "It might be more than £400 million. We had to do it with the DAF takeover of Foden."

But he had little doubt that the deal would go through, while still leaving an entry by Ford as a possibility. "We have to deal with the circumstances as they come," he said.



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hunting
advice from the
bulls at Wardley

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Green light for UES to acquire FH Lloyd

From Jonathan Brande, Brussels

The European Commission yesterday gave the go-ahead to UES, a subsidiary of Uthmaniyah, to take over the business of FH Lloyd, a subsidiary of Triplex Lloyd. The acquisition of Lloyd, which mainly produces continuously cast and rolled tube rounds, will increase UES's lead in the British manufacture of engineering steels.

However, despite the increase in UES's share of the British production of tube semis, the Commission said the level of imports would ensure that the company's

European Economic Community market share would rise by only about 1 per cent. The Commission has the power to block any transaction which it fears could restrict competition in the EEC steel market, but said the difference that the acquisition of Lloyd would make to UES's overall market share for engineering steels was insignificant.

The Brussels Competition Directorate also authorized Arbed, the Luxembourg steelmaker, to acquire the entire share capital of Flamm-Stahl, the West German stockholder. At the same time it gave the

green light to Hoogovens, the Dutch steelmaker, to buy 50 per cent of the share capital of two West German companies: Hille und Mueller, the steel transformer, and Thumann Stahl Service, the steel service centre.

Meanwhile, three West German scrap merchants, Eisen und Metall, Hansa Rohstoffe and Hoesch Rohstoffe, have received permission to take over joint control of Dortmund Stredler (DSH). DSH currently accounts for about 1 per cent of the Community turnover of shredder scrap.

John Lewis bonuses at £46m

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

The John Lewis Partnership, the department stores and supermarkets group which is controlled by its staff, is to distribute a record £46 million in annual bonuses to its 30,000 worker-partners.

This follows a year in which sales rose by 10 per cent and pretax profits by 15 per cent.

The bonuses, for the second year in succession, will be paid at a rate of 24 per cent of partners' salaries. Full-time adult sales assistants earn between £7,000 and £7,500 with those working in London receiving higher salaries than in the provinces.

It means the minimum cash bonus should be £1,680 rising to about £1,800. Managers will get more but their salaries vary widely.

Bonuses have varied in recent years at the chain of 21 department stores and 84 Waitrose supermarkets. There was a 24 per cent payout in 1979 but there was a fall to 16 per cent and less until 1983 when the bonus climbed to 21 per cent. In the two following years the payouts rose to 19 per cent and 20 per cent.

One man will not benefit from the bonus. Since his appointment as chairman in October 1982, Mr Peter Lewis — whose last published annual salary was £143,000 in 1986 — has declined to take up his bonus share. In this he follows the tradition continued by every chairman.

Mr Lewis is the nephew of the group's founder, Mr John Spedan Lewis. The family had built up a retail business since 1864 but the partnership was founded in 1929 when the Lewis family sold the group to the worker-partners for £1 million.

Group sales for the year ended in January exceeded £1.7 billion, with rises of 10 per cent from both the department stores and the supermarkets. It yielded pretax profits of £121 million.

Mr Lewis said: "The results fit well into a sustained period of success and good shopkeeping." Over five years sales have almost doubled while pretax profits have more than tripled.

"It is sometimes said that a co-operative will not have the guts to plough back enough profit even if it has the wit to earn it. Well, we have increased our retentions this year by some 20 per cent to £47 million," he added.

A great Budget treble but will Lawson stay at the Treasury?



that Mrs Thatcher would not easily contemplate.

On Tuesday Nigel Lawson will reach the pinnacle of his career as Chancellor of the Exchequer. With revenue running through the Treasury like a swollen flood, he will lighten the taxpayers' load; reform the personal tax system with the same imagination and realism he showed in 1984 when reforming the company tax system; and impress the City with another display of sound judgment and shrewd fiscal management. He will complete an outstanding treble: two radical reforming budgets, sandwiching a sophisticated election-winning Budget in 1987.

None of Margaret Thatcher's ministers has a better record than her neighbour at Number 11. A senior civil servant described him to me as "the most effective minister" he had worked for. I have been told on excellent authority "not to discount the possibility of his moving next door." A year ago no one in the party would have given Nigel Lawson a prayer. Then, a week ago, no one would have foreseen the Prime Minister's rocket.

During what should have been a smooth run-up to Tuesday's take-off, Mrs Thatcher decided to give her Chancellor a bumpy ride. It may be that her tongue ran away with her and her remarks during Commons questions on Tuesday were impromptu rather than considered. None the less she made waves with her statement that the only way to tackle the upward pressures on the pound was "either to have excessive intervention which would lead to inflation and that is no part of our policy, or to deal with the matter by interest rates, which would not be in the interests of inflation at the present time".

This was the economically-minded housewife who cares about all that sterling being spent in the foreign exchange markets to keep our currency down; and the primitive monetarist who believes in simple methods of curbing and cutting inflation, like an expensive pound to hit the profits of soft industrialists making inflationary pay awards.

The Prime Minister had lost patience with the subtleties of Nigel's careful alignment of sterling with the mark, designed to keep the pound calm and "competitive". Alone she had removed the ceiling of DM3 to the pound and put DM3.10 in speculators' sights.

"The Prime Minister has overruled the Chancellor and forced a change in the policy of holding down the pound against European currencies," wrote David Smith, *The Times* economics correspondent, on Wednesday. A day later, the *Financial Times* columnist, Samuel Brittan, was in apocalyptic vein, taking up the battle on Mr Lawson's behalf.

The Prime Minister, he wrote, might want "a repeat of the 1979-81 experience" (an overvalued pound and another recession to kill inflation). "As the one member of the Cabinet in a position to stand up to Mrs Thatcher, Nigel Lawson faces an awesome responsibility. . . His resignation is some-

thing that Mrs Thatcher would not easily contemplate.

"Yet the Chancellor is also the main sufferer from her arbitrary methods, having seen his whole economic strategy kicked away in a single Commons answer. He is now a principal victim of the Prime Minister's endless 'I will not have, I will not allow' and 'I insist'."

The breach between the Prime Minister and her Chancellor, although unfortunate and ill-timed, is unlikely to have lasting repercussions on economic management. From another angle it does however, strengthen my view that Tuesday's is probably Nigel's last Budget. His is an unusual case. When he entered the Commons, the height of his ambition was to be Chancellor, although in rare moments of modesty he would admit that he thought he was unlikely to achieve his ambition. Deservedly he did and by virtue of energy and intellect he has been outstanding in the job.

Implicit in his belief that he would not rise beyond the Treasury was his intention, at the appropriate time, to abandon high politics for the City and making serious money. But his success as Chancellor has given him a constituency of support among Conservatives that he would not have bothered to cultivate from the ground up. Eventually moving next door is a possibility; on the other hand, he would not like to spend the waiting years at the Exchequer. He may have peaked too soon and this week's exchange of fire with Mrs Thatcher might just persuade him that he is near the top of the market.

Should he move, he is surely about to leave an exciting legacy. Nigel's standing in the City and abroad is such that no one expects to quarrel much, if at all, with his overall Budget judgment. Notwithstanding Mrs Thatcher's abrupt intervention in monetary policy, the Chancellor will mix a measure of caution with his tax remissions.

A neutral Budget, depending on the Treasury's final arithmetic, might mean net tax cuts of £3 billion-£4 billion: a sober Budget therefore would reduce taxes by less and a flamboyant Budget by more (up to £6 billion-£7 billion, but that would be stretching it).

The excitements will be in the tax changes. In the first Budget of a Parliament in government, it can be true to its own colours in this instance, by cutting income tax, especially the high rates, and making the choice of savings and investments less dependent on their tax treatment. Various schemes for radical reform have been neatly trimmed and economically packaged by Gavyn Davies at Goldman Sachs.

A penny off the 27p basic rate (leaving another penny for later); all top rates abolished; no ceiling on employees' National Insurance contributions, so that all earned income would be taxed at 26p plus 9p, making 35p in the pound; interest and dividend payments taxed at the same 35 per cent rate (the same as the corporation tax rate); 35 per cent phased in as an internal tax rate on pension funds; and partially transferable allowances between spouses.

The pundit whom I think might be closest to the mark is Dr Mervyn King, professor of economics at the London School of Economics. He has reduced radicalism to a few bold strokes: two income tax rates — 25 per cent and 40 per cent; removing the upper limit on employees' NICs; possibly restricting mortgage interest relief to the 25 per cent basic rate; taxing all forms of investment income at a flat rate of, say, 25 per cent; in time taxing the investment income of pension funds at 25 per cent; and phasing out tax-free lump sums payable to newly-retired pensioners.

The Chancellor would have more to "give away" if he had decided to increase the revenue by broadening the tax base. He is unlikely to have taken the axe to mortgage interest and pension contribution tax relief, and certainly not to the sacred VAT cows of food, children's clothes and gas and electricity charges. But he will have been tempted by construction and I would not be surprised if newspapers, magazines and books are brought into the VAT net. The publishers are making too much money to be ignored. I wonder too whether we shall not see a tax on credit cards.

The tax shelters — business expansion schemes, personal equity schemes, woodlands, property enterprise schemes — have shortcomings but it is not easy for chancellors to abandon pet ideas. Capital gains tax is different: the least I expect is relief for inflationary gains made before 1982.

All this and much more in a Budget that will go a long way toward removing socialism, as well as other distortions, from the tax system. I look forward to it.

The favourable reaction I expect to Tuesday's statement should reinforce the attraction of the gilt-edged market, both at home and abroad. A balanced Budget (possibly even a negative public sector borrowing requirement) will shrink the supply of gilts.

Moreover, the expected cuts in the top rates of income tax will put a new emphasis on yields. In the equity market as well as in gilts, investors will be looking especially for shares where the dividend cover is ample, for example, companies where there has been little incentive before for "ruling" families to pay out very much by way of dividend.

Relief for pre-1982 capital gains would bring out some interesting lines of stock, especially from insurance companies which hitherto have felt locked in.

Approval for TR trust plan

By Alison Eadie

TR Technology Investment Trust has finally secured the agreement of its 27 per cent shareholder, Firmadale Investments, to the reconstruction of the trust.

The proposals, subject to shareholder approval, are similar to the plan produced by TR Technology two months ago, designed to reduce the gap between the asset value of the trust's shares and their market price.

The plan details the structure of the fund, to be called Govett American Endeavour Fund, which will receive 27 per cent of TR Technology's assets. Firmadale will be the largest shareholder.

TR Technology 11, a 10-year investment trust, will receive 45 per cent of the trust's assets. TR Global Technology, an existing British unit trust, will receive 28 per cent of the assets. The Endeavour Fund will be Jersey registered, have an eight-year life and be managed by Berkeley Govett, Firmadale's adviser.

Busy engineer



Sir Francis Tomba, the chairman of T&N, who says most of the engineering group's businesses started the new year the same way they ended last year — busy. See Tempus, below

Kuwaitis in £108m B&H rescue

By Michael Tate

Mr David McErlain, chairman of Anglo United, the coal and oil distribution group, has enlisted the support of the Kuwaitis in putting together a £108 million rescue package in cash and assets for the near-defunct opencast miner Burnet & Hallamshire Holdings.

The complex financial restructuring will wipe out the bulk of B&H's £73.5 million debts, bring in powerful new institutional shareholders, provide banking facilities of up to £30 million, and leave

the company with a massive 1.46 billion shares in issue. At the same time, a new, heavy-weight board is being installed, under the non-executive chairmanship of Mr Donald Carr, the Tarmac managing director.

The Kuwaitis, through Timeregal, a company ultimately owned by the state of Kuwait, could end up with anything between 7.5 per cent and 29 per cent of the new B&H, although Mr McErlain believes they will eventually

be left with about 15 per cent. "They had the muscle and will to come in and support what was basically a bust company," he said.

The Kuwaitis are underwriting £32 million of a new share issue, designed to raise £52 million in new money in total. The remaining £20 million has already been placed with some of the biggest institutions in the City, and Mr McErlain said yesterday that the stock could have been sold "three times over".

TEMPUS

Legal costs erode a solid performance by T&N

Poor old T&N. In 1987 the one-time Turner & Newall successfully managed to integrate the former AE group, making the numbers sing at the operating level, only to find itself down by a host of legal costs associated with asbestos.

So, after a 100 per cent leap in operating profit, to £100.7 million, the glamour progressively fades on the way down to the net earnings level. And what should have been a positive share price reaction to better-than-forecast profits and dividends turned out to be a 5p setback to 194p.

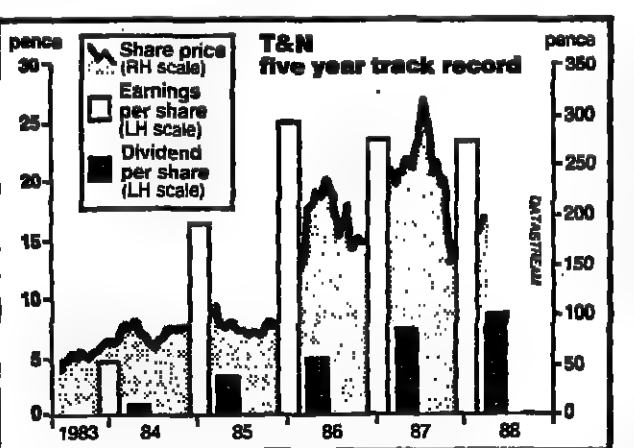
The trading profit of £90.6 million, against £47.7 million, has been flattened by a £11.6 million reduction in pension fund contributions, but hindered by a £3.6 million charge (compared with a £1.8 million credit) for asbestos-related claims.

There is a sharp increase in net financing charges, at £16.4 million (£4.4 million), although pretax profit still rose by 72.9 per cent, to £77.3 million. But at the net earnings level, because of the nearly doubled issued share capital, there is a 2.5 per cent reduction in earnings per share, to 23.35p a share.

But then, T&N has in recent years issued enough paper to rival a New York ticker-tape parade.

The charge for the time lawyers partly spent reading through a mountain of property documents was £4.6 million (£2.2 million), and there were other legal costs taking the overall charge to £6.5 million. A successful legal outcome could eventually see some charges reversed, but meanwhile T&N's own litigation against Hill Samuel and Cazenove over the AE affair continues.

The positive news from 1987 is that gearing has come down from 59 per cent to 21 per cent, the dividend has gone up to 8.5p a share, and that there has been a steady improvement in operating



automotive components market has paid off with a run from £19.8 million to £53.6 million in the profits contribution from component interests, and with engineering and industrial profits up from £19.3 million to £40.4 million.

More operating efficiency needs to be drawn from various parts of the group, but at least 1988 has started off on a busy note, and perhaps this is the year when EPS start at last to move forward. However, firm evidence will be needed of this before the sceptics are won over.

De Beers

De Beers Consolidated Mines, the established Old Lady of the diamond world which is 100 years and a day old today, is locked into the rollercoaster ride of Wall Street as far as the share price is concerned.

So there was only scant market reaction yesterday to the record attributable profits of £1.03 billion (£264.1 million) and a handsome dividend increase, taking the year's payout from 80 South African cents to 110 cents a share.

In earlier years, the deterioration in the diamond account where margins are again down — this year from 23 per cent to 20.7 per cent — would have raised eyebrows.

But De Beers, as it tacitly admits, is becoming more of a marketer of other people's stones than a digger of its own. This does, however, have

positive implications for its tax charge which in 1987 almost halved. The trend is of no particular worry, nor is the change in the diamond stockpile. Exchange-rate movements soften the real increase of £869 million in diamond stocks — at the balance sheet date up by £413 million to £4.45 billion — which remain the solid bedrocks for the years ahead.

De Beers' investment rating would undoubtedly be improved if, reflecting its marketing role, it was more readily identified with its Northern hemisphere markets than its Southern hemisphere mines.

But because of the political and historical implications, South Africa looks likely to remain its domicile for some time.

However, with CSO diamond sales still pushing ahead strongly, and February said to have been a record sight, profits prospects rather than political worries will concentrate investors' minds.

The shares were yesterday steady in dollars but in sterling 20p weaker at 553p. The yield of 5.1 per cent and solid prospects should make De Beers worth holding for another 100 years.

Dobson/MS

Dobson Park Industries reluctantly raised its bid for MS International from 90p a share to 130p yesterday.

Its first offer, two months

ago, was little more than a sighting shot, designed to flush out the MS defence capability. Dobson had not been quite prepared for the salvo it received back. The vehemence of the MS chairman, Michael Bell, is legend in the mining equipment industry and he was expected to mount a fierce rearguard action, based on a vociferous propaganda war. It was the size of his ammunition stockpile that took Dobson by surprise.

Hence, the mighty, 44 per cent increase in terms. Even on Wednesday, two days before its deadline, Dobson still believed that it could win the day with 120p a share, but it was finally persuaded to pay heed to the advice of the market-place and go for a knockout blow.

This offer, 130p in cash or loan notes, with a share option valuing each Dobson share at 105p (at each MS at 130p), appears to swing the odds in Dobson's favour, particularly with Panmure Gordon emerging from the market with some 17 per cent of MS shares, lifting Dobson's total to 20.2.

With a proposed exit P/E multiple of 12.5 against a sector average of 13.2, MS will not lie down, but at these levels, investors are going to take a much closer look at last week's £3.75 million pretax profit forecast for the year ending next month.

Mr Bell will have to reveal how much is coming from the group's pensions holiday, say a little more about the group's property sales and clear up some of the confusion over the litigation outlined in its first defence document.

And given that MS can hardly boast the most settled of trading records, they may question the board's ability to maintain the recovery. The switch of emphasis from mining supplies to electronics is, of course, designed to correct the trend, but Mr Bell now has some real talking to do.

MS has the comfort of an 11 per cent boardroom holding behind it and claims some solid support from many "close friends." And every share may count.

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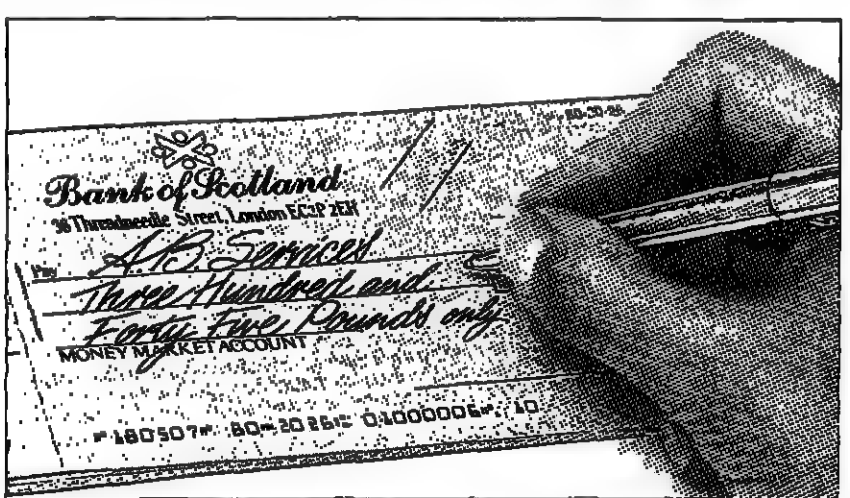
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Branch _____

Account Number _____

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* **B**ix divided, a Cass divided, is Cass
 split, a fix split, a fix split, as Cass
 (any two or more of above), a fix (any
 two or more of above), Drawing or
 reduction (days): (1) Monday, (2) Tuesday,
 (3) Wednesday, (4) Thursday, (5) Friday,
 (6) 22nd of month, (7) 21st 2nd Thursday of
 month, (22) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of
 month, (23) 23rd of month, (24) 3rd
 Tuesday of month, (25) 2nd and 3rd
 Thursday of month, (26) 4th Tuesday of
 month, (27) 1st Wednesday of month, (28)
 1st Thursday of month, (29) 2nd working
 day of month, (30) 1st working day of
 second day of month, (32) 22nd of month,
 (33) 1st day of February, May, August,
 November, (34) Last working day of
 month, (35) 2nd working day of month of
 month, (37) 21st of month, (38) 3rd
 Wednesday of month, (39) 2nd
 Wednesday of month, (40) 2nd
 Wednesday of month, (41) Last Thursday
 of month, (42) Last day of month,
 (43) Exchange account, (44) Last day of
 month, (45) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of
 month, (46) Quarterly, (48) 6th of month.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

MONEY MARKETS

12 more 7.10-7.05
EURO MON

GOLD

	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
US open interest	35416						
92	90 97	1535					
US Treasury Bond							

107.14

ices/volume previous day Radloff Wolf

[illegible]

48	Pen Box	97	102	2.0	2.0	19.1
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SL	CO	ANALOG PROPERTY	HAZ	EXP	-L	SL	SP	SP	SP	SP
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Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	

192 177 9-9 . . . 1 3/4

US=0.00	315	317	-11	13.0%	4.1	39.8	1	0.00
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.. NO significant data.

FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

Never-never loans

The never-never mortgage is here — the one you need never pay off.

The Halifax Building Society has extended the idea of its working life mortgage, allowing you to plan the loan to span your earning years and then to roll it over into retirement, so that you never have to pay off the debt.

Working life mortgages were started a year ago by the Halifax with little fanfare. They were a neat way of allowing young home-buyers to spread the cost over as many as 40 years. The Halifax negotiated long-life endowment mortgage deals with six life companies.

The policy is flexible, so that if the policy was funded

Tax relief makes it worthwhile

sufficiently to pay off the mortgage after, say, 30 years, the home-buyer could choose to do so, rather than running the mortgage on to retirement.

The Retirement Home Plan is an interest-only mortgage aimed at the elderly who pay interest only and plan to repay the capital after their death out of their estate.

Mortgage interest tax relief makes it worthwhile. But you receive mortgage interest tax relief only on buying a new property — those who want to stay in their own homes cannot benefit from the scheme. But anyone with a working life mortgage can simply roll it — and its tax relief — on and on into an indefinite interest-only loan that will be called in only on death.

Now that more and more elderly people see their children settled in their own homes with no need to move into the family home, it makes sense to

maximize lifetime income. It may be that those with income to shelter will find it worthwhile soaking up the tax relief in old age.

Like all building societies, the Halifax aims to segment the mortgage market. Mortgages for more sophisticated borrowers might be linked to LIBOR, the rate at which the London banks lend to one another. It is also considering fixed-rate mortgages and equity-sharing mortgages.

"This would be for the sophisticated end of the market. We would never do it with our mainstream borrowers," says the Halifax.

The attraction of switching to LIBOR-linked or fixed-rate mortgages is that the loans then become attractive propositions for other financial institutions. This "securitization" of mortgages is common in the United States but has not hit Britain yet.

The Nationwide Anglia said: "We are not securitizing yet but would not rule it out."

The Halifax, which says market conditions are not right at the moment for fixed-rate mortgages or ones linked to bank rate, was keen to emphasize that there would be safeguards for borrowers. They would not have their mortgages sold over their heads and would have safeguards over the future rate of interest and treatment of any mortgage arrears.

Lloyds Bank and the TSB both launched fixed-rate mortgages this week — a sure sign that they believe mortgage rates are due to drift downwards. But if you believe rates are due to rise, a fixed-rate mortgage is a good bet.

TSB England and Wales and Scotland has a new tranche of fixed-rate mortgage money available from Mon-

day. The endowment rates are fixed at 9.9 per cent (10.4 APR) for five years. At the end of the five years borrowers can take another fixed-rate deal or drop into a variable-rate mortgage.

The endowment mortgages with TSB Homebuyers Plan from the TSB Trust Company have to be for a minimum of £30,000 in England and Wales, where the initial mortgage can be increased by up to £5,000 for home improvements. In Scotland the minimum is £25,000 and there is no top-up at the fixed rate.

The penalty for withdrawing within five years is three months' interest, except when the endowment policy is kept on to buy another home.

A second-time offer from TSB

There is a £100 arrangement fee for the scheme.

This is the second time TSB has issued a fixed-rate loan. The last tranche of £100 million issued in April 1987 was snapped up in three days. This time there is £50 million of mortgage money.

Existing home-owners who want to swap to a fixed rate will have to pay for a fresh house survey, which should

cost about £70, and will be subject to borrowing no more than 95 per cent of the value of the property. Loans are based on a maximum of three times the main income and once the second income.

Lloyds' fixed-rate money is at 10 per cent — the same rate as for new borrowers now being offered a 0.5 per cent reduction on the standard 10.5 per cent Lloyds rate.

The fixed rate stands for three years until June 30, 1991, when borrowers will be able to switch to a new fixed rate or take a variable mortgage.

There is no minimum or maximum mortgage for the £200 million tranche of fixed funds, although the endowment or pension mortgage must be supported, at least partly, by a Black Horse life unit-linked policy. There is a £100 arrangement fee. The penalty for withdrawing from the fixed rate is two months' interest.

John Dawson, Lloyds' UK retail banking director, said: "This type of package goes down particularly well with home-buyers who welcome the opportunity to budget with certainty for the first three years of their mortgage."

Vivien Goldsmith

Mugged ... but covered

A home contents insurance policy that will pay out if you are mugged or assaulted in the street has been launched by the Stroud and Swindon Building Society.

The policy, which has the usual cover for possessions, will also pay out if any member of the family is assaulted in the home, even if the assailant is the victim's husband, wife or parent. However, the policy will not pay out if the attack was "self-provoked".

There are payments of up to £250 to cover clothing and possessions and up to £250 for a physical assault that is reported to the police and results in hospital treatment. If the attack results in the loss of an eye or limb, the pay-out can be up to £1,000.

The policy also includes a free smoke alarm, free legal advice and an emergency helpline.

There are five rate bands according to post-codes. The cost of insuring a three bedroom house ranges from £9.37 to £24.29 a month for three-star cover, including all risks and accidental damage, £7.12 to £22.05 for two-star, and £5.06 to £18.58 for basic one-star.

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Tel: (Work)
Tel: (Mobile)



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Before you look to your future, look to our past.

Place your bets!

The City of London accountants Coopers & Lybrand have produced their view of the "racecard" for Budget Day, just to give the solemn occasion a lighter touch:

Tuesday, March 15, 1988

3.30pm THE BUDGET HANDICAP

Racing certainties (leaves from head tied)	Runners
5-4 on	2p off basic rate Reduction of small companies tax rate Reduction of advance corporation tax rate
Evens	Reduced top rate Changes to Business Expansion Scheme Changes in higher rate bands Increase in inheritance tax bands
2-1	Withdrawal of mortgage interest relief at higher rates Increase in profit-related pay incentive
3-1	"Living in sin" mortgage interest relief abolished Change in tax treatment of certain financial instruments Increase in Personal Equity Plan limits
4-1	Increase in £50,000 mortgage interest limit VAT imposed on books Introduction of transferable personal allowances
6-1	Attack on foreign nationals' "dual contracts" VAT imposed on commercial construction Separate taxation of spouses' income
10-1	Abolition of life assurance product advantages Abolition of woodlands advantages
12-1	Phased alignment of NIC and tax rules Phased removal of employee's NIC ceiling
15-1	Abolition of Capital Gains Tax Tax relief on medical insurance
20-1	Assistance for foreign nationals' accommodation expenses Abolition of stamp duty on share transfers
50-1	Abolition of the previous year basis of taxation Flat rate of tax on all investment income
100-1	Basic rate 20%, top rate 40% Raising of P11D limit to £50,000
150-1	Bar

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BES sponsors waiting for a cascade of cash

There seems to be frenetic activity in the BES camp this week, thanks to predictions that top tax rates will be cut in the Budget. The explanation is that every pound invested in today's harsh tax climate buys more BES than it will in a less highly taxed year.

BES sponsor Chancery Securities has sent out a record 3,770 prospectuses in the past week, and a telephone information service has been set up for this weekend and next to advise potential investors.

Staff will be available on 01-935 8101 today and tomorrow and next weekend between 10am and 6pm to answer questions on BES and Chan-

cery issues. Outside these hours there will be an answering service.

Higher-rate taxpayers are more eager than usual to get money into BES schemes because an investment made before April 6 will qualify for relief at this year's rates. Peter Roe, of Chancery, predicts there will be "an ugly rush" before the end of the tax year.

Johnson Fry is also experiencing overwhelming interest in its BES schemes with more than £1 million a day arriving for investment. "The current flood of BES investors will become a tidal wave," predicts Charles Fry, the company's chairman.

He believes that if Budget cuts live up to expectations there could be £100 million of extra money looking for a BES home by April 5.

Johnson Fry has therefore launched a new BES vehicle called FANTOM. Fast Action New Tax-saving Opportunity in March. FANTOM will invest in companies capitalised at more than £3 million in the 1987-88 tax year.

This is a BES scheme that works in a similar way to a BES fund except that investments are not utilized. Investors can choose to buy into one or more companies within the scheme. But as with funds, management is discretionary and clients have no say about which companies receive their money. Johnson Fry promises investment in "large issues with good management, an assured exit route and a strong asset base".

"The important thing for investors is the tax year in which shares are issued, not the time that the company invested in starts trading," Johnson Fry explains.

Johnson Fry will be buying off-the-shelf companies to absorb investors' subscriptions and will then identify businesses in which these can invest. Several possibilities have been earmarked.

FANTOM will be open for subscription until March 31 and will invest all money before April 6.

Meanwhile, speculation continues about whether the Chancellor will tighten up further on the rule limiting BES companies' holdings in land and building to 50 per cent of net worth.

Riverside Racquet Centre, which runs an up-market sports club in Chiswick, west London, believes tough interpretation of the regulation is behind an inland Revenue ruling that has forced postponement of its share issue.

The company has already raised money under the scheme and wants to come back for further funds to expand. Membership of the club is now fully subscribed and there is a 300-strong waiting list.

Riverside has been told by the Revenue that investment in the company may not qualify for relief.

However, Robin Jones, of sponsor London & Edinburgh Trust, says the company's solicitors are adamant that tax relief should be available.

Maria Scott

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Payment puzzle for new claimants

When Family Income Supplement becomes the new-style Family Credit next month, the number of people claiming is expected to more than double from 200,000 to 470,000.

The switch is all part of a huge reorganization of welfare benefits coming in April. Family Credit will replace Family Income Supplement, Supplementary Benefit, the Social Fund, Housing Benefit rules will change, and much besides.

The expected increase in the number of people getting Family Credit (FC) will cost the Government an extra £2 million, plus £3 million for a publicity campaign.

Family Income Supplement has always had a poor take-up, partly because many people did not realize it existed, and partly because it was so complicated.

Tax-free benefit with conditions

Despite claims that many reforms in the social security system have been made because of the need for simplification, calculating FC is going to be no less complex than FIS.

FC is a tax-free benefit that can be paid to anyone supporting at least one child who normally lives with him or her. One condition is that at least one of a couple works for a minimum of 24 hours a week, and another is that the family must normally be res-

ident in Britain. Single parents, married or cohabiting couples can apply.

There are capital and complex earning-income qualifications. Savings of less than £3,000 will be ignored, but savings of between £3,000 and £6,000 will attract a notional income of £1 a week for every £250 or part of £250 over £3,000. For example, if the claimant has £3,450 in savings, it will be assumed that this brings in £2 a week in income. If a child of the family has more than £3,000 savings, no allowance will be included in the FC payment for that child.

"Income" will include all earnings plus bonuses, commission and retainer fees. Earnings that will be disregarded include most payments in kind, other than accommodation, any occupational pension, and any expenses payments incurred "wholly, exclusively and necessarily" as part of the duties of employment.

Other regular forms of income, as well as notional income from capital, will be included, but there is a long list of exceptions, including Housing Benefit, Mobility or Attendance Allowance, Child Benefit and the first £45 of any war disablement pension.

The calculation of FC makes the system complex and complicated. First, the FC assessor will work out the family's total weekly income. The gross earnings are reduced by an amount to cover income tax, National Insurance contributions and half of the

claimant's contribution towards a pension. This gives the net earnings, to which is added any other income that has not been disregarded.

From this total the FC assessor will deduct a figure known as the "applicable amount". For 1988-89 this amount is fixed at £51.45 per week. The amount left, if any,

Maximum for those with no excess

is known as the "excess income".

The assessor then calculates the maximum FC that would apply to claimants and their families. This will include payment for the adults, plus an amount for every child and, in the case of somebody with more than one marriage, an amount for second and subsequent wives.

If the claimants have no excess income they will be entitled to the maximum FC that the assessor has calculated. If they do have excess income, then the FC payment will be reduced by the excess income figure.

It is incredibly complicated, but if you think you might be one of the 270,000 additional families entitled to the benefit, do make sure you claim in time for an April payment. Claim Form FC1 should be available from Post Offices and DHSS offices, and you can claim FC now. If you are already claiming FIS you need do nothing.

Charles Jackson

Come rain, come shine regular income, paid quarterly

Investments that offer regular income with the opportunity for capital growth are difficult to find. That's why Legal & General have launched their new Fixed Interest Trust. It offers regular income, paid four times a year, and the prospect of underlying capital growth. How is this achieved? Through Fixed Interest stocks such as British Government securities - gilts. These offer dependable income and stability. But, as an individual investor, you might find it difficult to build a portfolio capable of providing a regular income throughout the year. That's where Legal & General's investment expertise can help.



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Invest before 28th March 1988, and you will receive a valuable bonus allocation of units. Whatever you invest, we will increase your initial investment by an extra 1%.

preference shares and loan stock in the UK and fixed interest securities throughout the world, balancing slightly higher risk with the much higher rates of return available. This will allow four interest payments per year, with careful investment management providing all the security you need, with capital growth when interest rates fall.

As with other forms of investment there are risks. The value of units and the income from them can fall as well as rise.

However with the expertise of Legal & General management, the risks are considerably reduced.

HOW WILL INCOME BE PAID?

Income will be paid to investors four times a year - in February, May, August and November. An initial gross annual yield of 8 1/2% is anticipated.

HOW YOU CAN INVEST NOW

Buying Units is easy. Simply complete the application form and post it with your cheque (minimum £1000). Units will be issued to you at the offer price current when your application is received, and a contract note sent. Your unit certificate should follow within six weeks. This should be kept safe - you will need it to cash in your units.

CASHING IN UNITS

You can sell your entire holding back to the Managers on any business day at the ruling bid price - simply let us have your instructions and your renounced certificate. You will normally receive a cheque within seven working days.

CALL THE LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT TRUST HELPLINE

on 01-248 9678 if you have any queries.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

INVESTMENT

Minimum £1000, subsequent investments must be for a minimum of £300. Unit prices and yields are published daily in the leading national newspapers. The trust deed also provides for investment in traded options subject to certain conditions.

CHARGES

The preliminary charge, built into the offer price is 5%. The annual management charge is 1% of the value of the fund plus VAT deducted from the value of the fund, with a provision to increase this to 2% on three months notice. The Managers also make a rounding adjustment to bid and offer price of 1% or 1.25% whichever is the less. Remuneration is payable to qualified intermediaries. Rates on request.

UNITS

Investors buying units from the offer will receive their first distribution on 5th August 1988.

A discount of 2% is given on the offer price of units bought with reinvested income.

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We operate a share exchange for most quoted UK shares.

REGISTERED DETAILS

Trustees: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Managers: Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Limited, Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TR. Registered in England No. 1009418.

Member of the Unit Trust Association, IMRO and LAUTRO.

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POST TO: Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Ltd, Freeport 1649-1, 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 1SE.

The minimum investment in the Fixed Interest Trust is £1,000. Please make your cheque payable to Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Ltd.

I/We wish to purchase units in Legal & General's Fixed Interest Trust to the value of £

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☐ Net Income from the Fixed Interest Trust will be distributed to unitholders four times a year. You may prefer this income to be reinvested in the purchase of further units. If so, please tick this box. (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

SURNAME (MR/MRS/MISS)

FIRST NAMES (IN FULL)

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

(PAYMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE SENT TO THIS ADDRESS UNLESS YOU SPECIFY OTHERWISE)

NAME OF YOUR USUAL FINANCIAL ADVISER

SIGNATURE(S) 1

Date

SIGNATURE(S) 2

Date

In the case of a joint application, all applicants must sign.

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Investment in this trust is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland or the USA. LEGAL & GENERAL (UNIT TRUST MANAGERS) LTD, a member of the Unit Trust Association and LAUTRO, Registered in England No. 1009418. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TR.

Legal & General Unit Trust Managers

Safety first still comes a poor second.



Building Societies can offer a competitive yield in the short term, but if you want your investment to pay higher dividends in the longer term, to help you pay tomorrow's bills as well as today's, GT's Income Fund could turn out to be a far more satisfactory investment.

As our illustration shows, initial investors in GT's Income Fund are receiving an annual income which now substantially outstrips the return from any building society account.

In addition to this growing income over the years, investors have also enjoyed excellent capital growth. As at 24 February 1988, £1,000 invested in the GT Income Fund at its launch in 1973 would have grown to £4,765 (offer to bid excluding income payments) - even after last year's fall in world markets. If the £1,000 had only been invested five years ago it would already be worth £1,882.

Why GT performs so well

GT Income Fund is a UK unit trust whose managers invest your money in a wide range of shares and fixed interest securities, so your eggs are never all in one basket. And since your income

is derived from dividends paid out from profits earned by the companies in which we invest, it is unaffected by rises or falls in the stockmarket.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up, but every year, bar one, since its launch in 1973, GT Income Fund has paid a higher income to its investors through all the economic and political changes of the last fifteen years.

The GT group

GT Unit Managers Ltd. is part of the international GT group which, at 10.11.87 managed over £3.6 billion on behalf of pension funds, institutional and private clients.

To find out more about GT's Income Fund, just fill in and return the coupon.

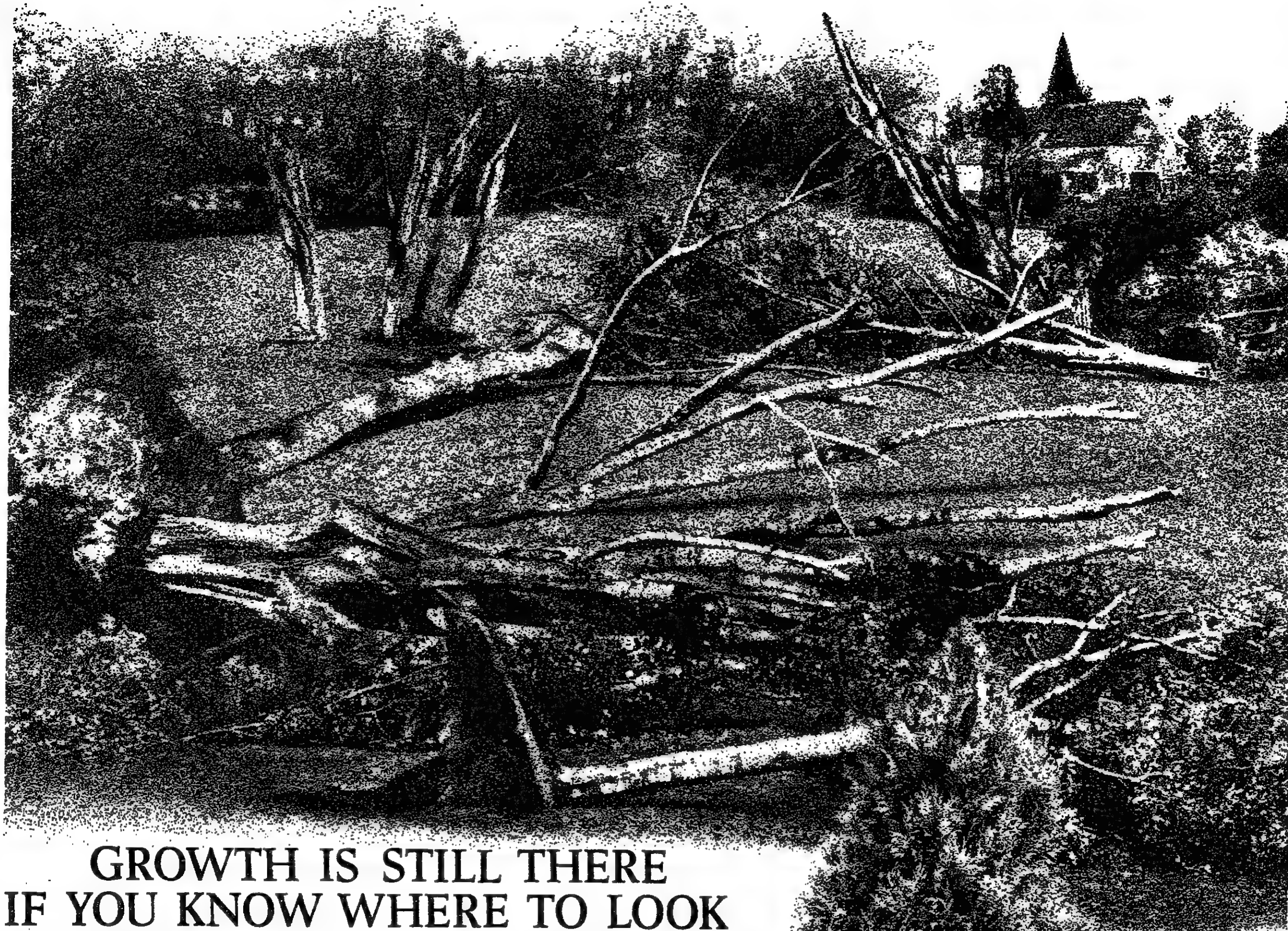
To: Carolyn Bickham, GT Unit Managers, FREEPOST, London EC2B 2DL. Please send me details of GT's Income Fund.

Name

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INTRODUCING THE NEW TR WORLDWIDE SPECIAL SITUATIONS FUND



GROWTH IS STILL THERE IF YOU KNOW WHERE TO LOOK

It is not the easiest of times to invest your money if you're looking for out-of-the-ordinary returns.

But last October's stock market storm has, in fact, created many opportunities to identify undervalued shares whose prices have the capacity to outstrip stock market trends.

What is needed is the ability to see the wood for the trees, and that's what our new Unit Trust is all about.

Now is the time

Our strategy is simple: beat a path through current conditions, ignoring general stock market trends and overstepping crippled giants, actively seeking out companies whose share prices can move independently of market trends.

Companies whose very natures are resilient to ill winds.

And they do exist. Everywhere in the world. They are called special situations and we intend to buy them when their share prices are below their intrinsic values and sell as they reach their true worth.

This is the place

We will do this through the new TR Worldwide Special Situations Fund. A fund launched to achieve maximum possible capital growth from a vigorously managed portfolio of special situation shares selected from the world's stock markets.

We will concentrate on under-researched smaller companies whose real worth has not been generally recognised. Or companies where there is an as yet unappreciated entrepreneurial management. Or companies, both large and small, in takeover situations. Or even interesting new issues.

And the team

Of course, the success of any fund is dependent upon the skills of its fund manager. Investors in our new Fund can take great satisfaction in knowing that their money is being invested by Sir William Vincent, Touche Remnant's most senior fund manager.

He will be supported by a select team of eight investment managers who, as specialists in the stock markets of the UK, the US, Japan, the Pacific Basin and Europe or the technology, natural resources, and property sectors, are able to bring

their experience and good judgement to the Fund.

This team will adopt the aggressive Touche Remnant technique of 'stock-picking'. That is, constantly monitoring situations in order to spot new opportunities as fast as they come into view.

With a track record

As our only business is investment management, we are able to concentrate exclusively on producing superior performance for our clients. Consider these examples, bearing in mind that past performance is no guarantee of future success.

TR American Growth Fund up 45.4% since launch in October 1983 (sector average 9.0% - 2nd out of 58 funds).¹

TR Japan Growth Fund up 158.8% since launch in October 1985 (sector average 110.7% - 5th out of 51 funds).²

TR Special Opportunities Fund up 285.6% since launch in January 1983 (sector average 164.0% - 6th out of 92 funds).³

Our consistently high achievement is highlighted by recent **Planned Savings*** statistics on all growth funds of the 40 largest unit trust management groups**. We were rated first over the past one, two, three, four and five years.

For the medium to long-term

However, the TR Worldwide Special Situations Fund will not suit every investor. The Fund's potential for achieving higher returns means it carries higher risks. We consider it only suitable for experienced investors, with sufficient speculative capital beyond that held in Bank or Building Society accounts and in lower-risk investments, who can afford to take a medium to long-term view. (We would suggest three to five years.)

Remember, there can be no guarantee of a good return on an investment of this nature: the price of units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up. This may result in an investor realising an amount which is less than that originally invested.

1% launch discount

Units may be purchased at the fixed offer price of 25p from the 12th to the 31st of March 1988. If you invest by the 31st you will enjoy a special 1% launch discount, provided in the form of additional units.

To invest simply complete the coupon below making your cheque payable to TRUTM. Alternatively, during the launch

period, telephone 0800 289300 or 01-248 1250 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday to Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

If you normally consult a professional investment adviser, you should discuss your proposed investment before taking action.

Incidentally, the launch of this Fund sees the commencement of Touche Remnant's support for Dr. Barnardo's work with underprivileged young people. We will donate one half of our annual management fee from the Fund to support Britain's largest child-care charity.⁴

We are confident that outstanding growth can be found in today's stock markets, if you know where to look. We believe that you need look no further than our new Fund.

*Source: Planned Savings. Group weighted performance across the 40 largest unit trust management groups - offer to offer, income reinvested - over periods shown to 31st February 1988.
**Unit trust assets under management.
1 1st November 1983 - 29th February 1988. 2 1st November 1985 - 29th February 1988. 3 1st February 1983 - 29th February 1988. The figures quoted represent the increase in value of an investment over the periods shown. All figures Opal Statistics - offer to bid, with net income reinvested. 4 See Manager's Donation below.

Send to:
Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management
Ltd, Freeport, London EC4B 4AB.

To invest, please complete this application form and return it, together with your cheque made payable to TRUTM.

I wish to invest
£

Minimum initial investment £500.
Subsequent minimum £50.

I am investing in the TR Worldwide Special Situations Fund at the initial offer price of 25p per unit and, subsequently, the ruling price on the day of receipt of application.

I enclose my own remittance.
Please note that the 1% discount is provided in the form of an additional allocation of units.

IN BLOCK CAPITALS Mr □ Mrs □ Miss □

Surname

Full Forenames

Address

Postcode

Signature(s)

Date

In the case of joint applications, all applicants must sign and attach their names and addresses.

TOUCHE REMNANT

Please tick if you wish your investment to be in the form of:

Income Units ☐

or

Accumulation Units ☐

If the above section is not completed, Accumulation Units will be allocated.

Please tick if you wish to receive information on other Touche Remnant Unit Trusts ☐

If you have a professional adviser, please complete the following:

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Address of Adviser

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This offer is made to UK residents only, who are over the age of 18.

TR WORLDWIDE SPECIAL SITUATIONS FUND

General Information Fund Objective: The TR Worldwide Special Situations Fund will be managed to provide the maximum possible capital growth from an actively managed portfolio of securities, in so doing taking advantage of special situations anywhere in the world including technology, stock, takeover, possibilities and undervalued asset opportunities. Geographical asset allocation will be of secondary importance. Investments will essentially be selected on their individual merits on a worldwide basis rather than on market or asset allocation. Nevertheless some emphasis will be placed on those markets which are perceived to have the highest capital growth potential. Due to their special characteristics, the majority of holdings within the Fund will tend to be less dependent on general market trends. Although the Fund will usually be invested in equities, the Managers may, from time to time, take advantage of investment opportunities which arise in fixed interest securities. The use of back to back loans will be considered as a means of minimising currency risk. The Fund does not contain powers for the Managers to purchase and write Traded Call Options and purchase Traded Put Options. The Managers may also invest up to a total of 25% of the value of the Fund in the United Kingdom Unlisted Securities Market (USM) the French Second Marché and the Tokyo Over-the-Counter Market. Dealing takes place daily and can be carried out by telephoning the Managers, or by sending a completed application form. Prices and values, which are calculated daily, are published in leading national newspapers. Units may be purchased from the Managers acting as principal, at the initial offer price of 25p until 31st March 1988. The minimum initial investment is £500 or 2000 units (whichever is less). The estimated initial price yield is 1.8% after the initial three pence offer charge. Units may be purchased at the ruling offer price. It is the Managers' intention to quote a dealing spread between bid and offer prices of 0.5% or 2000 units (whichever is less). However, the Managers reserve the right to vary the dealing spread in light of market conditions. Redemption will be paid to authorised intermediaries by the Managers and rates are available on request. Applications will be acknowledged by the Managers on receipt of your application and certificate will normally be despatched within 28 days. Selling your units can be carried out at any time during normal dealing hours. Repurchase proceeds will normally be forwarded within 28 days of receipt of your application. The Managers' Charges are set at 1% of the net asset value of the Fund, plus 1% of the value of the Fund's assets under management. The Fund is authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry. Copies of the Fund may be requested at the office of the Managers during normal business hours. Trustees and Registrars: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Trustees Investments Act 1961. The Fund is authorised by the Department of Trade and Industry. Copies of the Fund may be requested at the office of the Managers during normal business hours. Trustees and Registrars: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Managers: Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited Registered Office: Mermaid House, 2 Padstow Dock, London EC4A 3AT Registered Number: 792552. Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited is a member of the Unit Trust Association and has applied for membership of IMRO.

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Sinister goings-on at the tax office

Thank you for your series on tax in *The Times* (The hidden powers of the taxman). I am a retired professor and I too have had several nasty experiences with the Revenue.

In some cases it may be just incompetence, in others it is more sinister.

My complaints include problems over book royalties for my late father's estate, subsistence payments when the Royal Society sent me to Israel as visiting professor, a holiday cottage I own jointly with my daughter that we let out, and some land that we sold.

If they behave badly, can they wonder that people "forget" to declare things like furnished lets?

As the result of my problems (and several other less serious pieces of incompetence), can you wonder that I am implacably opposed to local income tax?

I recognize that, ideally, it would be fairer than the poll tax. But in the real world it would be administered by the same set of bureaucrats with a similar set of rules.

It fills me with horror, bearing in mind that the quality of local employees tends to be very low anyway.

In view of the outcry against the poll tax, I believe that, if national income tax is administered as badly as David Brewerton says, heaven preserve us from local income tax!

PROFESSOR H.N.V. TEMPERLEY, Thornbury House, Langport, Somerset.

I am puzzled by the remark in the article in which the case of Carolyn Ganton is dealt with. You remarked that she is only 18 and already the Inland Revenue has a file.

Why the surprise? She is in the same situation as scores of young people in this country, and indeed some may well have been paying income tax for a year or two previously — like myself.

For the vast majority of the working population will have been taxpayers long before the Carolyns of this world have finished their education.

In short, I hope your articles are not the usual middle-class moan that arises when their various perks are attacked. At risk of being accused of *Schadenfreude*, I must say I am rather pleased to see that at last the Revenue are mounting the investigations against the well-to-do that they have hitherto reserved for waiters' tips and newspaper delivery boys' weekly earnings.

P.J. ALLERY, Crystal Palace Road, London SE22.



Family Money welcomes readers' letters for publication but we regret we cannot give individual replies or advice.

A couple of points for invalid carers

Two points should be made following Charles Jackson's piece in *Family Money* (February 27).

First, he says that entitlement to Attendance Allowance should "make it easier" for a carer to claim Invalid Care Allowance. It is not a question of making it easier since carers cannot receive Invalid Care Allowance unless the person they are looking after is already receiving Attendance Allowance.

Second, he is right to point out the possible problems about limiting the numbers qualifying for Attendance Allowance in future and many of us working with carers and

disabled people feel very concerned about this.

It may, though, be reassuring to claimants to know that in a debate in the House of Commons on January 13, 1988, the Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, Mr Michael Portillo, assured the House: "It is absolutely not our intention to create conditions any different from those that existed before the Moran judgement. I give my absolute assurance on that."

JILL PITKEATHLEY, Director, National Council for Carers and their Elderly Dependents, Chilworth Mews, London W2 3RG.

Family pets are treated better than wives

Over the years I have grown used to this Government being anti-family and anti-women in its legislation concerning taxation of married women. I am resigned to being treated as a second-class citizen, because I choose to get married, but I am amazed to find that I am not entitled to the same treatment concerning Capital Gains Tax as my husband when I sell an investment.

Indeed, it would appear that my children, dog, cat and donkey are all entitled to make a capital gain without paying tax, but I am not if my husband has made one in the same year.

The mere mention of Capital Gains Tax to a married woman is doubly insulting. Not only are they allowed no indexation against the gain if their husband chooses to claim the allowance, but as custodians of the weekly budget, and well aware of the effect inflation has had on prices and that therefore most so-called gains are merely illusory, to tax a gain that in reality does not exist is truly Machiavellian.

THEODORA GREEN, Malvern Drive, Woodford Green, Essex.

My rage over the Euro charge

Like Mr Readwin I was inflamed when Midland raised the cost of their Eurocard (Family Money, February 27) and I cancelled. They still sent a new one, which I took back in person with the corner cut off.

I am now retired. If I was still working "the co would pay", and I am sure the banks are relying on this. I am going to use in future cash advances against a Visa card at 1.5 per cent. My experience over three years in France is that Visa cards in ordinary use for purchases are very good — you get an amazingly good exchange rate for the pound, far better even than in England.

I am hoping that cash for Visa card may work out even cheaper than travellers' cheques at 1 per cent.

Is this the thin edge of the wedge — a charge for normal bank cards? E.R. PALMER, Burlington Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

On discovering that the increased Eurocard fee had been deducted from my account I telephoned the branch (Hartley Garden, London) and offered to return my card and cheques if the charges were cancelled. I was told that unless I heard otherwise this would be OK. Not hearing to the contrary, I returned the documents three days later. Acknowledging receipt of the returned documents I was informed: "There are no arrangements to refund the annual commission charge."

The matter does not rest. M.L. HALPERIN, Nottingham Terrace, London NW1 4QE.

That Euro card more fury



Issy Aydiner: new service.

The taxing task made easier

A new form-filling service for PAYE taxpayers has been launched. Issy Aydiner, a 39-year-old chartered accountant, who runs Personal Tax Ltd, says: "Most people loathe the chore of filling in their tax returns and have little understanding of the extent of their entitlements or how changed circumstances can radically alter their tax liability."

He believes that at least a third of all those on PAYE are paying too much.

Personal Tax Ltd charges a flat rate of £50 plus VAT. Clients list key information on an application form and send it off with any necessary documents and the blank tax return. The service promises that within three weeks it will complete the form and provide a tax report advising on moves that could improve the client's tax position.

The service is similar to the pioneering Taxsure service run from Brighton by Dorothy Grant. This service also helps you to obtain all the necessary pieces of paper from banks, building societies and stockbrokers, and will provide a Form 930, which should speed up getting any rebates due.

Taxsure charges between £100 and £150, depending on the complexity of the tax affairs. However, you pay only when there is a saving. The charge is reduced for follow-up tax checks.

The service can cope with Capital Gains Tax and the complicated indexation calculations it entails. "Very few people pay the correct tax on PAYE. I would say seven out of 10 are paying too much," says Mrs Grant.

Vivien Goldsmith, Personal Tax Ltd, Cedarwood, Chislehurst Road, Orpington, Kent BR7 6RA (0689 76616).

57% more pension for the same money

Someone retiring on 1 May 1987 would have been 57% better off with The Equitable than with the worst performer among our competitors, according to 'Planned Savings' most recent survey of 10 year with profits pension plans for executives and directors. Of course, the past cannot guarantee the future, but since 'Planned Savings' began these surveys, The Equitable has been top of the tables more often than any other company. What's more, we also delivered the top benefits in their 1985, 1986 and 1987 surveys of 5-year plans.

Much of this pre-eminence derives from our outstanding investment performance. But we also give you a head start by having more of your money to invest in the first place, since we pay no commission to middlemen. Nor are there any shareholders to nibble away at the profits.

So unless you're one of the very few executives who will actually receive your maximum pension (2/3 of final salary), you'd be well advised to investigate a top-up pension.

If you're going to do that, it makes sense to come to the company with the top track record. Please contact us direct on 0296 26226 or send in the coupon.

*Planned Savings July 1987

To: The Equitable Ltd, FREEPOST, Walnut Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7BL. I would like further details on: Individual Pension Plans; Unit-linked investment alternatives. (UK residents only)

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms) _____ Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel. (Home) _____ Tel. (Office) _____

Dated Birth _____

Founded 1943

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INVESTING IN BES? TAKE BEST BES ADVICE. BES investments can be very profitable and provide a good tax shelter. But BE WARNED, you must take good advice to reduce your risk.

FREE GUIDE. We are the acknowledged independent experts on BES. For a FREE copy of our introductory Guide to BES and details of our BEST BES Service contact: BES Investment Research Ltd, Freeport, 60 St James's Street, London SW1A 1LE. Tel: 01-409 1197.



VAT hovers over holidays

New VAT rules mean that holidaymakers may face a surcharge on their holidays — even ones that have already been booked.

The travel trade is in confusion over how to pass on the change in the VAT regulations affecting tour operators from April 1. Holidaymakers already booked for Spain, France or any other European Community country should ask whether they will be surcharged, or if the operator will absorb the cost.

The change directly affects operators, rather than retail travel agents, unless they are acting as principals. From April they are liable for VAT on the profit margin, not on the whole holiday. This is on the basis that VAT will already have been paid in the

European Community states where the holiday takes place.

Therefore, tour operators already settle the VAT element on hotel accommodation, which can range from 7 to 18.6 per cent in France, and can be as much as 38 per cent in smart hotels in Italy.

They also already include in the price VAT on travel, such as 7 per cent for rail in West Germany, and for other parts of the package such as theatre tickets.

Some operators, who also act as agents, such as Thomas Cook, have announced that long-haul holidays will not have the VAT extra and have now added short-haul destinations. They will absorb the charges.

Michael Austin, financial director of Cosmos, said

liability for VAT was included in the published price of holidays in his company's current brochure, so customers should not have to pay any extra.

There has been no recommendation from the Association of British Travel Agents. The association's VAT expert, Donald Pearce, said client invoices will not disclose the VAT element directly. It is likely to be called "Imposition of Government Tax" on the final invoices, which are issued six to seven weeks before departure.

Despite "guarantees" in brochures, most operators carry exclusion clauses that would allow them to pass on the extra cost to customers. Horizon guarantees there are no currency changes but makes the typical bland comment: "This guarantee is subject to governmental action such as a change in the rate of VAT." However, later in the

brochure Horizon says prices have been taken into account.

Silk Cut Travel says that unless a holiday has been paid in full at the time of booking, "prices may be increased at any time up to nine weeks before the date of departure".

Flair says government action or changes in VAT can alter its "price pledge" on no surcharges.

It is vital to ask now if the price includes the extra VAT. If you have booked flights only, they should be zero-rated, but many agents are using cheap fares from holiday charter flights.

In order to meet international regulations, there has to be an element of accommodation, which usually takes the form of a voucher. Discounted air fares may, therefore, attract VAT after April 1.

Conal Gregory

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LEGAL & FINANCIAL

Looking for a top lawyer?

Edward Fennell goes through the book to find the cream of our legal eagles



If there are any BBC executives out there, how about this for a whiz of an idea? A weekly radio programme called, for the sake of argument, Desert Island Writ.

Presented by someone young, dashing and handsome (I believe I still have one or two diary dates free) it would do an astonishing amount to raise from obscurity some of the many law firms about whom we really ought to know more.

The format would be simple and would be guaranteed to go through the audience ratings like a dose of salts.

Each week a distinguished accountant, marooned overnight somewhere in the provinces and completely stuck on some impossibly obscure point of law, would be asked to select the local law firm to whom he would turn for advice.

An impossible task? Well it might have been a few weeks ago, but not any more. With the aid of a new directory, *The Legal 500*, to be published on Budget day, our castaway accountant would have a better tool kit of contacts for getting himself out of his uncertainty.

Produced by Legalease, a publishing firm specializing in handbooks on legal matters, *The Legal 500* gives details of the top 500 law firms in England and Wales.

To declare an interest at once you will find my name among the contributors, but the overwhelming bulk of the book has been written by John Pritchard, a practising lawyer who is already well-known for his *Penguin Guide to the Law* and his *Guide to Motoring Law*.

The core of the book is quite straightforward. It provides the reader with basic information about the size, history and areas of specialization in the firm.

What is more tantalizing, however, and will spread a mix of consternation and delight across hundreds of partners' meetings over the next couple of months, is John Pritchard's introduction which analyses who is generally regarded to have a "good name" in the profession.

This is the information which would be most valuable to our castaway accountant and is also likely to be of some value to lawyers looking for new jobs or undergraduates for articles.

For example, if you've got a franchising difficulty in Leeds, then according to *The Legal 500* you should turn, among others, to Simpson Curtis. Commercial litigation in Birmingham? Then make contact with Cartwright & Lewis Vernon & Shakespeare. And what about commercial leases in Ipswich? *The Legal 500* suggests Turner Martin & Symes.

But on what basis does *The Legal 500* pontificate like this?

As John Pritchard would say, he is not pontificating but drawing conclusions from the massive opinion poll which accompanied the research for the book. When firms supplied information about themselves for their entries they were also asked to nominate who they thought in their region had a good reputation and who was going from "strength to strength". It really was a case of judgment by one's peers.

"I'm sure that some people will look at the comments and completely disagree," concedes John Pritchard. "But, having said that, we discovered that there was a remarkable consistency of views expressed over most things. When we asked for recommendations the same names tended to be mentioned again and again."

Of course, there is no absolute measure of how good or bad a law firm is. At the end of the day subjective opinion is the most we can rely on. So, on this basis, here are a few tidbits which could be of interest to you.

Starting in London, John Pritchard reckons that Slaughter and May and Linklaters & Paines are by far the most respected and highly-valued names in the legal profession. The firm generally perceived as likely to go from strength to strength is Clifford Chance. Despite the initial uncertainties the merger seems to have turned out to be a "resounding success." Other firms to watch in London includes Travers Smith Braithwaite, Herbert Smith, S.J. Berwin & Co and the forthcoming merged firm of Lovell White Durrant.

In the South-east the firms which are reckoned to have good prospects include Thomson Snell & Passmore, Blake Lapthorn, and Coffin Mew & Clover, although I am also glad to see Donne Mileham & Haddock reckoned to be the leading light in the field of general company law.

Down in the South-west the firms which were rated highly included Osborne Clark and Revan Ashford, with Burgess Salmon and Bond Pearce chasing hard. Interestingly, these latter two are also linked by their membership of the M5 Group which is winning a terrific

reputation as a model which other provincial firms might like to follow (other members of the M5 group elsewhere in the country were also strongly recommended).

When it came to the Midlands, John Pritchard found it difficult to single out with confidence the names of the future because of the overall strength and diversity of the area. However, he did come up with a tentative shortlist which was headed by Howes Percival (probably the most outstanding firm in the region), followed by Evershed & Tomkinson, Shoosmiths & Harrison, Pinsent & Co and Wragge & Co.

Wales turned out to be pretty barren when it came to looking for exciting law firms. One of its problems was that with a mere 15 outfits in the top 500 it was under-represented while the average gross fees per partner are substantially less than the average for the rest of the country.

Even so, Morgan Bruce & Hardwick (soon to be merged with Geo L Thomas Nettleship & Co) seemed to be well regarded, although Edwards Geldard and Phillips & Buck also had some support.

In the North-west (and that means principally Liverpool and Manchester) there is a powerful phalanx of strong firms including a number of those which I visited a few weeks ago. Overall the top firm in the region seems to be Alsop Stevens with Addshaw, Sons & Latham, Halliwell Landau, Cuff Roberts North Kirk, and Alexander, Tatham & Co in hot pursuit.

Pannone Blackburn, of course, has a unique national reputation for its personal injury work in the wake of the Manchester air crash and the Zebruggie ferry disaster.

The distinguishing feature of the big firms way up in the far North-east is that, unlike in the rest of the country, they are quite happy to get involved in non-commercial work. The criteria of judgment therefore are slightly different.

Taking this into account, the most hotly fancied firm is Simpson Curtis, although it is flanked not too far behind by Booth & Co and Dibbe Lupton and Wade.

Finally East Anglia where Daynes Hill & Perks and Mills & Reeve Francis are reckoned to be the front runners in both size and future prospects.

OK, so now I have set the cat among the pigeons I'll go and negotiate my contract with the BBC.

Law Report March 12 1988

Test of continuous employment

Sillars v Charrington Fuels Ltd
Before Mr Justice Popplewell,
Mr G. A. Peers and Mr A. A. Webb
[Judgment March 2]

A fuel delivery driver regularly employed for seven months a year over 15 years was held not to have been continuously employed for the qualifying period of one or two years for the purpose of an unfair dismissal claim or a redundancy payment since the breaks in his employment were not a temporary cessation of work within the meaning of paragraph 9(1)(b) of Schedule 13 to the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978, so as to preserve the continuity of his employment.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal held that the industrial tribunal was justified in applying the mathematical test proposed by the House of Lords in *Ford v Warwickshire County Council* ([1983] 2 AC 71) notwithstanding that what was said was *obiter*, rather than adopting the broad approach stated in *Fitzgerald v Hall, Russell & Co Ltd* ([1970] AC 584).

The appeal tribunal dismissed an appeal by Mr Alexander Sillars from a decision of a British Bakers (Northern) Ltd v Addington and Others before Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr R. Lewis and Mr J. C. Ramsay [Judgment March 2].

Union officials employed by a baker who attended a meeting of trade union officials to discuss how to prevent the repeal of the Baking Industries (Hours of Work) Act 1954, which guaranteed reasonable conditions of work in the industry, were not carrying out duties concerned with industrial relations between an employer and his employees, within the meaning of section 27 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978.

Paragraph 9(1)(b) of Schedule 13 provides: "If in any week the employee is for the whole or part of the week absent from work on account of a temporary cessation of work, that week shall . . . count as a period of employment."

Mr Alan Bishop for the employer, Sir Ian Percival, QC and Mr Robert Percival for the employees.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that the employee drove fuel delivery lorries between October and May, the heating season, each year from November 1971 until May 1986.

Parliament had provided that periods of temporary cessation of work should not break continuity of employment, but what was a temporary cessation was a matter which had given rise to difficult questions of law.

In *Fitzgerald's* case the House of Lords had given directions as to the correct approach when

considering the meaning of "temporary" and had prescribed what could be described as a broad approach, looking at the period of employment as a whole.

The industrial tribunal had considered the decision of the House of Lords in *Ford's* case where they had suggested a mathematical test, namely that one looked at a period of employment and a period in which a cessation of work occurred comparing the two, and then looked at the balance to decide whether the cessation of work was temporary.

The tribunal had observed that the issue in *Ford* was whether paragraph 9(1)(b) applied to successive fixed term contracts and the proper approach to deciding whether a cessation of work was temporary was not argued so that the mathematical test suggested there was *obiter*.

The tribunal also referred to the criticism of *Ford* by the Court of Appeal in *Flack v Kodak Ltd* ([1987] 1 WLR 31).

They concluded that since they were dealing with

successive short-term contracts similar to those in *Ford's* case, they would apply the mathematical test with the result that since in the last two years of his employment the employee had worked for 27½ weeks and had 27 weeks out of work the period out of work could not be regarded as a temporary cessation and his employment was not continuous.

It was argued on appeal that the industrial tribunal ought to have applied the broad approach laid down in *Fitzgerald's* case, since the test in *Ford* was *obiter* and inconsistent with *Fitzgerald*.

The appeal tribunal considered that the industrial tribunal were entitled to conclude that the facts were not dissimilar to *Ford's* case, namely a regular pattern over a number of years. The Court of Appeal in *Flack v Kodak Ltd* had not said in relation to cases involving a regular pattern that the mathematical approach was wrong.

They said that it did not have universal application or apply where there was an irregular pattern of work in which case

the broad approach suggested in *Fitzgerald* would be appropriate. It was open to industrial tribunals to follow *Ford* in cases of a regular pattern of work notwithstanding that what was said was *obiter*.

It was plain that in the light of what might be said to be a conflict in the authorities the issue needed to be resolved by the Court of Appeal or House of Lords so that industrial tribunals could be clear as to the position in law.

The industrial members of the appeal tribunal wished to say that the broad approach in all cases was the best approach from the point of view of good industrial relations.

They also wished to draw the attention of the legislature to the potential unfairness if those regularly employed year in and year out had no rights under industrial relations law.

The appeal would be dismissed and leave to appeal granted.

Solicitors: Alexander Johnson; Nockolds, Bishop's Stortford.

No time off for discussing Act

British Bakers (Northern) Ltd v Addington and Others
Before Mr Justice Popplewell,
Mr R. Lewis and Mr J. C. Ramsay
[Judgment March 2]

Union officials employed by a baker who attended a meeting of trade union officials to discuss how to prevent the repeal of the Baking Industries (Hours of Work) Act 1954, which guaranteed reasonable conditions of work in the industry, were not carrying out duties concerned with industrial relations between an employer and his employees, within the meaning of section 27 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held by a majority when allowing an appeal by British Bakers (Northern) Ltd from a decision of a Leeds industrial tribunal in February 1987 that the employees, Mr Harry Addington and three others, were entitled to time off during working hours with pay to attend a meeting called by their union, the Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union on July 8, 1986.

The employees had appealed on the ground that the industrial tribunal had erred in law in holding that the employees were carrying out duties which were

concerned with industrial relations between their employer and their employees when they attended the meeting.

Section 27 of the 1978 Act provides: "(1) An employer shall permit an employee of his who is an official of an independent trade union recognized by him to take time off . . . during the employee's working hours for the purpose of enabling him (2) to carry out those duties of his as such an official which are concerned with industrial relations between his employer and any associated employer, and their employees . . ."

Mr P. N. Hinchcliffe for the employees; Mr C. C. Hanton, solicitor, for the employers.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL, giving the majority decision, said that because of the introduction of new technology the operating practices of the baking industry had changed and the Government had in mind to repeal the 1954 Act. The union considered that the intention to repeal the Act should be resisted.

The employees obtained leave of absence to attend a meeting in July 1986 to discuss what steps could be taken to prevent a repeal of the Act but the employers refused to pay them for the time off work.

The industrial tribunal decided that the employees were

entitled to be paid and upheld their claim. On appeal the employers contended that the repeal of an Act of Parliament was not a matter between the employees and their employers but between the employees and the Government and so was not concerned with industrial relations between the employers and the employees within the meaning of section 27 of the Act.

The employees argued that the issue was one of fact for the industrial tribunal: that the tribunal had correctly directed themselves in law and that the purpose of objecting to the repeal of the Act was the genuine fear that industrial relations between the employer and employee would be affected, namely by a reduction in working standards.

The majority of the appeal tribunal had concluded that the employers' argument was correct. The section qualified the phrase "industrial relations" by the words "between his employer and any associated employer and their employees".

The meeting was not directly relevant to industrial relations between employer and employees.

The appeal would be allowed and leave to appeal granted.

Solicitors: Jack Thornley, Manchester; Whittles, Manchester.

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Bach St. John Passion

Soloists: Anne Dawson, Christopher Robson, Maryon Hill,

Mark Tucker, David Thomas, Michael George

Conducted by David Hill Westminster Cathedral Choir

In association with Help the Aged

£16.00, £15.00, £5.00

Barbican Hall Tuesday 5 April at 7.45 pm

MOZART Overture, Idomeneo, K.366

BRUCH Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26

MENDELSSOHN Violin Concerto No. 2 in D minor

MENDELSSOHN Violin Concerto No. 3 in A minor

Conductor: Grant Llewellyn

Sponsored by Spence & Oppenheim

£11.50, £10.50, £9.50, £8.50, £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50

Tickets available from Barbican Box Office/C.C. 01-481 8800

Igor Oistrakh violin

Natalia Zvereva piano Conducted by Grant Llewellyn

Sponsored by Spence & Oppenheim

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CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA

EASTER CONCERTS

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22.38sec in a Lotus. Derek Warwick, of Britain, in an Arrows, was sixth in 1min 27.96sec, followed by Luis Perez Sala, of Spain, in 1min 41.87sec in a Minardi. Only seven drivers took part in Thursday's tests.

